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## **Navy Personnel Research and Development Center**

San Diego, CA 92152-6800 TN-90-13



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## **Family Separation and Petty Regulations** as Dissatisfiers on the DTIC **Navy Separation Questionnaires**

Robert A. Giacalone Paul Rosenfeld

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## Family Separation and Petty Regulations as Dissatisfiers on the Navy Separation Questionnaires

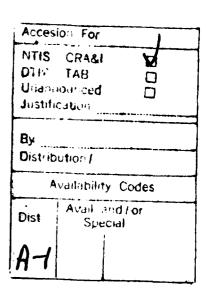
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#### Form Approved REPORT DOCUMENTATION PAGE OMB No. 0704-0188 Public reporting burden for this collection of information is estimated to average 1 hour per response, including the time for reviewing instructions, searching existing data sources, gethering and maintaining the data needed, and completing and reviewing the collection of information. Send comments regarding this burden estimate or any other aspect of this collection of information, including suggestions for reducing this burden, to Washington Headquarters Services, Directorate for Information Operations and Reports, 1215 Jefferson Davis Highway, Suite 1204, Arlington, VA 22202-4302, and to the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reduction Project (0704-0188), Washington, DC 20503. 2. REPORT DATE 1. AGENCY USE ONLY (Leave blank) 3. REPORT TYPE AND DATE COVERED March 1990 Final--April 1987-April 1988 4. TITLE AND SUBTITLE 5. FUNDING NUMBERS Family Separation and Petty Regulations as Dissatisfiers on the Navy Separation Questionnaires Program Element 0603720N, Work Unit R1772 6. AUTHOR(S) Robert A. Giacalone and Paul Rosenfeld 7. PERFORMING ORGANIZATION NAME(S) AND ADDRESS(ES) 8. PERFORMING ORGANIZATION Navy Personnel Research and Development Center REPORT NUMBER San Diego, California 92152-6800 NPRDC-TN-90-13 9. SPONSORING/MONITORING AGENCY NAME(S) AND ADDRESS(ES) 10. SPONSORING/MONITORING Chief of Naval Operations Career Programs Branch (OP-136) Washington, DC 20350-2000 11 SUPPLEMENTARY NOTES 12a. DISTRIBUTION/AVAILABILITY STATEMENT 12b. DISTRIBUTION CODE Approved for public release; distribution is unlimited. 13.ABSTRACT (Maximum 200 words) A survey was conducted to help Navy understand the family separation and petty regulations issues that have been cited as reasons for separation from the Navy. Results showed that family separation was seen as a generally negative experience. Aspects of family separation related to physical separation and lack of communication with family were the most related to separation from the Navy. Most agreed that "petty regulations" referred to excessive, differentially enforced rules. Kermonds:

17. SECURITY CLASSIFICA-

TION OF REPORT

**UNCLASSIFIED** 

14. SUBJECT TERMS

Family separation, retention, attrition, separation questionnaire, petty regulations

18. SECURITY CLASSIFICA-

TION OF THIS PAGE

UNCLASSITIED

20. LIMITATION OF ABSTRACT

15. NUMBER OF PAGES

UNLIMITED

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16. PRICE CODE

#### **FOREWORD**

This report details the results of a survey of family separation and petty regulations sponsored by the Career Programs Branch (OP-136) of the Chief of Naval Operations and performed under Program Element 0603720N (Advanced Development), Work Unit R1772. OP-136 expressed interest in exploring the issues of "family separation" and "petty regulations," two frequently cited dissatisfiers on the Navy's Separation Questionnaire. An analysis of the family separation and petty regulations issues, based on a survey of separating officers and enlisted personnel, is the focus of this report.

This report was carried out for OP-136 under the "Quick-Response" research program. Because of the limited scope of quick-response projects, this is the only report generated by this effort. The sponsors of this effort (OP-136) have been previously briefed concerning the findings and recommendations contained in this report.

The authors wish to thank Linda Doherty, Jean Greaves, and Mitch Vicino for their support and assistance.

JULES I. BORACK

Director, Personnel Systems Department

#### **SUMMARY**

#### **Problem**

Since 1980, separating officers and enlisted personnel have been asked to complete a questionnaire, which attempts to assess the reasons for their separation from the Navy. Historically, responses to the questionnaires have revealed that enlisted personnel have ranked "dislike family separation" and "too many petty regulations" as major dissatisfiers, while officers have rated "too much family separation" as a key dissatisfier. Remedial action to these problems, however, has been limited by the ambiguous nature of the issues.

In an attempt to clarify the precise meaning of the family separation and petty regulations issues, the Chief of Naval Operations (OP-136) requested that the Navy Personnel Research and Development Center (NAVPERSRANDCEN) conduct a survey whose goals were to help the Navy better understand the family separation and petty regulations issues, take actions to address these dissatisfiers, and be better prepared to seek Congressional support for programs aimed at long-term solutions to these problems.

#### **Purpose**

The survey requested answers to three issues relating to the "impact, scope, and definition" of family separation and three relating to petty regulations. The questions were:

#### Family Separation

- 1. What is meant by family separation?
- 2. How much family separation is a person willing to accept before he/she decides to separate from the service?
- 3. What services or policies would lessen the adverse impact of time spent away from families?

#### Petty Regulations

- 1. What is the definition of a petty regulation?
- 2. Who establishes these petty regulations?
- 3. What can the chain of command do to decrease the number of petty regulations?

#### Approach

The methodology in this study consisted of four phases. In Phase 1 (Category and Information Gathering), the investigators engaged in library and computer searches of the relevant literature pertaining to the main issues. Additionally, individuals familiar with Navy policies and practices (e.g., NAVPERSRANDCEN Fleet Support staff) were interviewed so as to obtain background information regarding family separation/petty regulations and the administration of the Officer and Enlisted Separation Questionnaires. In Phase 2 (Interviewing), structured interviews were conducted with 51 enlisted personnel and 54 officers at the Personnel Support Detachment (PSD), San Diego, Naval Training Center in San Diego, Naval Ocean Systems Center

(NOSC), the Anti-Submarine Warfare Base, and the USS DIXON. The interview questions were open-ended and related to the six questions specified in the project's tasking. In Phase 3 (Questionnaire Construction), the information from Phase 2 was carefully reviewed and content-analyzed. For each of the problems, a list of the key issues raised in the interviews was made. This list, along with rating scales, was transformed into officer and enlisted supplementary questionnaires. In Phase 4 (Surveying), a "nonprobability sample" consisting of individuals who completed the Officer and Enlisted Separation Questionnaires within a given period of time was used. Several hundred officer and enlisted supplemental questionnaires were mailed to point of contacts (POCs) at PSDs in San Diego, Norfolk, Pensacola, and Pearl Harbor, accompanied by a letter from OP-136 requesting that the surveys be completed at the same time as the standard Officer and Enlisted Separation Questionnaires and returned to NAVPERSRANCEN for analysis. A total of 213 enlisted personnel and 71 officer questionnaires were completed and received at NAVPERSRANDCEN.

#### Results

Results showed that family separation was seen as a generally negative experience resulting in stress, loneliness, depression, difficulty in solving family problems, and as negatively impacting children. However, there was agreement, particularly among single respondents, that separation also resulted in greater maturity, personal independence, and appreciation of family. Respondents also agreed that the aspects of family separation related to physical separation and lack of communication with family were the most related to separation from the Navy. Most agreed that petty regulations referred to excessive, differentially enforced, and unjustifiable rules, which could be replaced by "recognition for a job well-done."

#### Recommendations

A number of specific and general recommendations were made relating to the issues tasked by the sponsors.

#### **Specific Recommendations**

Family Separation:

- 1. Increase communication with the family.
- 2. Utilize a realistic job previews technique for communication on issues related to family separation/deployment.

#### **Petty Regulations**

Give credit for a job well-done.

#### General Recommendations

- 1. Survey those who reenlist and compare to those who separate.
- 2. Conduct a random sample survey assessing dissatisfiers among those in active Navy.
- 3. Revise the separation questionnaires and revamp the process of collecting information from separating personnel.

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#### INTRODUCTION

#### **Problem**

In attempting to understand the complex issues involved in the decision to separate or remain in the military, the Navy has used information provided by separating and reenlisting personnel. Since 1980, separating Navy officers and enlisted personnel have been asked to complete questionnaires, which attempt to assess their reasons for leaving the Navy. The Enlisted and Officer Separation Questionnaires (ESQ, OSQ) were developed in the late 1970s by researchers at the Navy Personnel Research and Development Center (NAVPERSRANDCEN) in San Diego, CA and consist of lists of 30 possible reasons related to separation. Individuals who are voluntarily separating are asked to evaluate how important each of the reasons has been in their decision to separate; those being involuntarily separated are asked how important each of the reasons has been in "its influence on you." There are a number of similar items on the ESQ and OSQ; however, each also contain items not found on the other.

Historically, two of the items that have been ranked high among dissatisfiers on the ESQ are "dislike family separation" and "too many petty regulations." On the OSQ "too much family separation" has also been a top rated dissatisfier (there is no "petty regulations" item on the OSQ).

Although the family separation and petty regulations issues have been identified as dissatisfiers in the past (Doherty & Cowan, 1983), remedial action has been limited by the ambiguous and vague nature of the issues. Because both the ESQ and OSQ only require that respondents indicate how important a dissatisfier is, it is impossible to determine from an analysis of the questionnaire responses what facets of the issue are most problematic. The *Navy Times* (Burgess, 9 June 1984) noted this problem for the petty regulations issue: "Among enlisteds, a reason to leave gaining prominence with all but the junior pay grades--'too many petty regulations'-- is very general and manpower officials find it difficult to pinpoint ready solutions... Whether Navy-wide regulations or programs--such as the Navy's drug/urine analysis testing and random breathalizer tests--or local regulations are behind this reason for leaving is impossible to determine, said an official."

In order to better define and clarify the components of the family separation and petty regulations issues, the Chief of Naval Operations (CNO) (OP-136) requested that NAVPERSRANDCEN conduct a survey under the "Quick Response Program" (see Appendix A for documentation). It was felt that the results of such a survey could help the Navy better understand the family separation and petty regulations issues, take actions to address the dissatisfiers, and be better prepared to seek Congressional support for programs aimed at long-term solutions to these problems.

Specifically, the tasking of the present "Quick Response" survey requested answers to three primary questions relating to the "impact, scope and definition" of family separation and three relating to petty regulations. The questions were:

#### Family Separation

- 1. What is meant by family separation (e.g., 6 month deployments, frequent temporary attached duties (TADs), workups before deployment, or a combination of all the time spent away from family)?
- 2. Given the fact that deployments are part of Navy life, how much family separation is a person willing to accept before he/she decides to separate from the service?
- 3. What services or policies would lessen the adverse impact of time spent away from families?

#### Petty Regulations

- 1. What is the definition of a petty regulation?
- 2. Who establishes these petty regulations (e.g., is it policy set in (OPNAV), Naval Base rules set by the Commanding Officer (CO), or rules set by the work center supervisor)?
  - 3. What can the chain of command do to decrease the number of petty regulations?

Consideration of these issues is addressed with a review of previous relevant research. Since several Manpower and Training Research Information System (MATRIS) computer searches of Department of Defense (DOD) research failed to find any relevant studies relating to petty regulations, focus is on the family separation literature.

#### An Overview of Previous Research

There has been a long tradition of investigating various aspects of family separation in the Navy, both as a general issue and as a factor in the separation/retention process (e.g., Farkas & Durning, 1982; Nelson, Marlowe, Coyne, & Grandin, 1987; Nice, 1983). Since one goal of the present study was to better understand what is meant by "family separation," a brief overview of past work is useful.

A number of studies document the negative psychological and physical impact that long-term deployments have on the family unit. In a review of the literature on family separation, Hunter and Hickman (1981) found that family separation was linked with increased stress on family members, particularly wives, who have been found to suffer from increased rates of depression, loneliness, boredom, and physical illness. Nice (1983) compared the degree of depression experienced by wives whose husbands were deployed aboard ships with those whose husbands were living at home. He found higher rates of depression among the wives of deployed sailors. The elevated depression levels began before the actual separation occurred and remained high throughout the deployment period. Family separation has also been associated with marital problems and strained relationships with other family members (Nelson, Marlowe, Coyne, & Grandin, 1987).

More recently, there are indications that the separation experience is not uniformly deleterious for all Navy families. Rather, factors such as age, time in service, spousal employment, spousal coping patterns, and gender-role orientation appear to influence the degree to which

deployment-related family separation is harmful (Hall, 1987; Nelson et al., 1987). In some instances, family separation has been related to positive outcomes. Hall (1987) describes a recent survey conducted by Robert Archer and Catherine Cauthorne involving several thousand Navy personnel and spouses. The survey looked at the impact of deployments on the family. Although it was found that the deployment period was associated with increased stress, alienation from the Navy, and anxiety about the family, there were also positive impacts on the family unit. As compared to civilians, Navy families avoided conflict, were more cohesive, orderly, and better organized. These findings are echoed by Nelson et al. (1987, p. 2) who note: "...for some wives the separation may be a positive experience and the difficulties of separation may only serve as grist for the mill of personal growth and family development."

As concerns the present study, the effects of deployment-related separation on the family (both negative and positive) are relevant to the degree that family factors are related to naval separation and retention. Evidence that the effects of separation on the family are key ingredients in the separation-retention process has been obtained in a number of studies (e.g., Farkas & Durning, 1982; Szoc, 1982). Farkas and Durning (1982) reported that factors associated with the effects of deployments on the family strongly influence intentions to reenlist in the Navy. They found a strong statistical relationship between family pressure to leave the Navy and intention to reenlist. Family pressure to leave the Navy was related to the extent to which the Navy was perceived as interfering with the family. More recently, The *Navy Times* (Willis, 18 April 1988) reported the results of an analysis of DOD records that found a wife's dissatisfaction with military life is a key factor in retention of enlisted personnel.

To summarize, previous work has documented that deployment-related separations can negatively impact on family members. However, recent work has also noted that a number of families effectively cope with the separations, attempting to make a difficult situation into a positive one. The impact of separation on the family appears to be a key factor influencing the separation-retention decision. This background provides a framework for the present study's attempt to better understand the meaning of "family separation" as a leading dissatisfier on the ESQ and OSQ.

#### Questionnaire Development, Methodology, and Administration

Given the specific focus of the present project and the limited time available to complete it, the data collection and analyses were aimed at addressing the questions relating to family separation and petty regulations outlined in the project's tasking.

#### **APPROACH**

The methodology in this study consisted of four phases: Category and Information Gathering, Interviewing, Questionnaire Construction, and Surveying.

#### Phase 1: Category and Information Gathering

In order to gain a broad perspective on the issues of family separation (reviewed above) and petty regulations, computer searches relating to these issues were conducted for DOD-related

research (MATRIS) and research published in psychological journals (*Psychological Abstracts*). As noted, there were no citations directly applicable to the issue of petty regulations in the Navy. This preliminary phase also involved an attempt to obtain any documentation about the development of the separation questionnaires. Our efforts indicated only one study (Doherty & Cowan, 1983) had actually used data from the separation questionnaires. A search of the literature failed to uncover any documents related to the development or implementation of the ESQ and OSQ.

In addition to the library searches, a number of individuals were interviewed to obtain background information about family separation and petty regulations, the Naval separation process, and the administration of the OSQ and ESQ. These preliminary interviews were conducted during June 1987. Those interviewed included the Officer in Charge at Personnel Support Detachment (PSD)-San Diego, individuals tasked with distributing the OSQs and ESQs at PSD-San Diego, spouses and relatives of Navy personnel, active duty enlisted personnel and officers stationed at NAVPERSRANDENCEN, and civilian members of the NAVPERSRANDENCEN Fleet Support staff.

#### Phase 2: Interviewing

Structured interviews were conducted with 51 enlisted personnel and 54 officers during June-July 1987. The enlisted interviews were conducted with personnel who were voluntarily separating at PSD-San Diego and at the Naval Training Center (NTC) in San Diego. The interviews were conducted on an individual basis by the present authors. Because of the few numbers of officers who actually separate at PSD-San Diego in any given week, only four separating officers were interviewed. To gain additional information from the officer community, active-duty officers were interviewed or completed open-ended questionnaires at the Naval Ocean Systems Center (NOSC), the Anti-Submarine Warfare Base, and aboard the USS DIXON in San Diego. The average interview was completed in about 15 minutes.

All interviewees were informed that their individual responses would be confidential and that all responses would be pooled when the interviews were completed. Interviewees were questioned with the same structured format of questions, and were given the opportunity to comment further at the end of the interview on any of the issues raised. The questions were open-ended and related to the six questions specified in the project's tasking. The interview phase of the project was ended after several weeks when it became apparent that the issues being raised were similar to those raised by previously interviewed personnel.

#### Phase 3: Questionnaire Construction

The information from the interviews in Phase 2 was carefully reviewed and contentanalyzed. For each of the problem categories (family separation and petty regulations), a list of the key issues raised in the interviews was made. The list, along with rating scales, was transformed into officer and enlisted questionnaires, the preliminary draft of which was completed on 31 July 1987. Draft versions were reviewed by researchers and management at NAVPERSRANDENCEN and staff at OP-136B for accuracy, clarity, redundancy, and sensitivity. Items were then combined or eliminated and several items were added at the sponsor's request, resulting in a final set of items for each problem category. Each of the lists was headed by a general question relating to family separation or petty regulations, followed by a Likert scale on which the importance of each item was to be evaluated. The sponsor requested that the petty regulations items be contained only on the enlisted questionnaire. The final versions for the officer and enlisted family separation items were virtually identical, differing on only one item. Copies of the Supplementary Officer and Enlisted Separation questionnaires used in this survey are contained in Appendix B.

#### Phase 4: Surveying

Given the limited time period of the project and the difficulty of determining beforehand who was separating and when they would actually appear at the PSD, the sample of individuals who completed the questionnaires was not random. Rather a "nonprobability sample" (Fowler, 1984) consisting of individuals who completed the OSO and ESO at PSDs within a given time period was used. Several hundred Officer and Enlisted Supplemental Separation Questionnaires were mailed in late October 1987 to point of contacts (POCs) at PSDs in San Diego, Norfolk, Pensacola, and Pearl Harbor. The locations chosen were at the direction of the sponsor. The surveys were accompanied by a letter from OP-136 requesting that the surveys be completed at the same time as Officer and Enlisted Separation questionnaires NAVPERSRANDENCEN for analysis. Individual envelopes were provided with the survey to guarantee anonymity of the responses. The POCs were instructed to distribute the questionnaires until 31 December 1987. This deadline was later extended because of the holiday season to 31 January 1988.

A total of 213 enlisted and 71 officer questionnaires were completed and received at NAVPERSRANDENCEN. Given several factors, such as the survey administrations were begun at somewhat different times (e.g., Pearl Harbor was delayed a week due to the mail), not all separating officers who are processed at PSDs actually appear, and the completion of the survey was voluntary; it is difficult to estimate response rates accurately. However, because the response rates for the standard separation questionnaires have been low in the past (24%-36% for enlisted; 18%-54% for officer), it is unlikely that the present response rates were higher than these.

#### **Data Analysis**

Demographic information was tabulated for the respondents. A summary of the demographic information is contained in Appendix C. To simplify the presentation, the percentage of agreement with each item was calculated by combining the frequencies of those who responded (4 = moderately agree and 5 = strongly agree). The percentage agreement for items on both scales are presented in Appendix D: Data Summary.  $\underline{t}$ -tests comparing the mean scores for each of the top three items for each of the six problem areas were conducted and are described in the text where appropriate. Correlational analyses using Pearson's product-moment correlation were conducted to determine the degree of association between the various items on the questionnaires.  $\underline{t}$ -tests and  $\underline{F}$ -tests (one-way analysis for two groups) were done to determine the differences between subgroups (e.g., married vs. single, male vs. female).

#### RESULTS

The results will be presented as they relate to each of the six questions specified in the project tasking.

#### 1. What is "family separation?"

During the interviews it became clear that the meaning of family separation was essentially comprised of two dimensions: the effects of various components of the family separation issue on the respondents and the aspects of the family separation issue related to separation from the Navy.

#### Effects of family separation

Family separation is seen as an experience, which is not generally positive, but is coped with. Some positive aspects are seen resulting from the experience, while negative effects are thought of as unpleasant but not generally leading to severe psychological or emotional problems. Married respondents were more negatively affected than singles. Officers and enlisted personnel show similar patterns of responses in both the definition and impact of family separation. These results are contained in Appendix D.

#### Specific findings were:

- a. High ratings were obtained for stress, loneliness, and depression as negative effects.  $\underline{t}$ -tests indicated that "caused feelings of stress" was rated by enlisted personnel as significantly higher ( $\underline{p} < .05$ ) than the other effects on the questionnaire.
- b. Greater maturity and increased personal independence were perceived as positive effects.
- c. Family problems were seen as more difficult to solve and children were viewed as negatively affected.
- d. Greater appreciation of time spent with family, spouse, and children was seen as a positive effect. For officers, "caused increased appreciation of time spent with family" had the highest rate of agreement (92%) as an effect of family separation.  $\underline{t}$ -tests indicated that its mean score was significantly different ( $\underline{p} < .05$ ) from all others except "prevented seeing children grow up."
- e. There was low agreement that family separation induced psychological problems, caused family to suffer financial problems, and contributed to abuse of drugs and alcohol.

#### Aspects of Family Separation Related to Naval Separation:

According to indications obtained during the interviews and data from the surveys, the aspect of "family separation" most related to Naval separation was the lack of contact and inability to communicate with the family (see Appendix D). It appears that this aspect of family separation was more important than the actual deployment length, work-ups, or in-port duties, for both

officers and enlisted personnel. Thus, rather than deployments per se being the essential dissatisfier, it was the inability to be in contact with and communicate with family during deployment that appeared to be the aspect of "family separation" most associated in the mind of our respondents with their decision to leave the Navy. This suggests that remedial actions taken to reduce the impact of actual physical separation (e.g., low cost flights to liberty ports) might reduce the negative impact associated with family separation during deployments. Specifically, the survey data indicated:

- a. Aspects that focus on the family (e.g., loss of time with family, not seeing children grow up, inability to help family in crisis) had the highest agreement in terms of being related to naval separation.
- b. Deployments and short notice of deployments were considered somewhat important. However,  $\underline{t}$ -tests indicated that for enlisted personnel these were considered significantly less important ( $\underline{p} < .05$ ) in the decision to separate from the Navy than the absence during important family events, loss of time with family, and absence from family. While the patterning of responses for officers was similar, they did not differ statistically, perhaps due to the smaller officer sample size.
- c. Aspects such as in-port duty, child care expenses, family reluctance to move, and single parent responsibility were less important to the decision to separate.

In summary, those aspects of family separation most related to negative impact on the family were considered more important in the decision to separate than those relating to time/distance (deployment). For the enlisted personnel surveyed, absence during important family events, loss of time with family, and not being present when children are growing up were rated as aspects of family separation most related to naval separation.  $\underline{t}$ -tests showed that these three were rated significantly more important ( $\underline{p} < .05$ ) in the decision to separate than the other items on the list. Correlational analyses indicated that responses for the item "to what extent do you agree that family separation is a reason you are separating from the Navy" had higher correlations with items related to separation from the family than those related to deployments, work-ups, and other time-related items. For example, on the officer survey, this global item was significantly correlated with "being stationed away from family,"  $\underline{r}(64) = .51$ ,  $\underline{p} < .001$ , "absence from my family,"  $\underline{r}(64) = .53$ ,  $\underline{p} < .001$ , and "loss of time with family,"  $\underline{r}(64) = .50$ ,  $\underline{p} < .001$ , but not with "short notice of deployments,"  $\underline{r}(64) = .14$ , ns.

2. Given the fact that deployments are part of Navy life, how much family separation is a person willing to accept before he/she decides to separate from the service.

In order to assess this issue, respondents on both questionnaires were asked, "I would leave the Navy if I had to spend more than \_\_\_\_ percent of my time during the next year separated from my family." The average responses for officers (40%) and enlisted personnel (39%) were very similar. These average "maximum deployment" scores were both less than the actual average percentage time at sea that respondents indicated they had previously spent (45.0% for officers, 56.4% for enlisted). Furthermore, when the responses are analyzed by frequency for each 10 percent increment (see Appendix E), it is clear that among both officers and enlisted personnel very few individuals endorse deployment percentages above 50 percent. The vast majority of officers

(81%) and enlisted (83%) indicated that family separation, which was greater than 50 percent of the year, would result in their separation from the Navy. Given the realities of deployment separation in the Navy, it may be that those individuals whose expectations and tolerance of deployment-related separations are far below the actual amount of deployment time are particularly prone to separate. Future research in the direction of comparing "maximum deployment tolerance" obtained for separating personnel with those reenlisting, and individuals beginning their Navy careers, would shed light on the potential relationship between how much family separation a person feels he or she can tolerate and the decision to separate or remain in the Navy.

As might be expected, married officers and married enlisted personnel were willing to tolerate significantly less family separation than their single counterparts. Number of children was also related to responses on this item. Although the maximum separation times were not correlated with age or length of service, there was a significant negative correlation for enlisted personnel between number of children and amount of family separation they could tolerate,  $\underline{r}(68) = -.28$ ,  $\underline{p} < .04$ ). The correlation indicates that those enlisted personnel who had more children were willing to tolerate less separation from their families. Finally, enlisted women indicated that they would tolerate less family separation (31.8%) than enlisted males (40.6%). These findings are presented graphically in Appendix E.

3. What services or policies would lessen the adverse impact of time spent away from families?

Suggestions for Reducing the Family Separation Problem:

Respondents were asked to indicate degree of endorsement with a number of potential solutions that were suggested during the interviews. An analysis of the responses found the highest endorsements were for solutions that may be the most difficult to enact (shorter deployments, better pay). More practical solutions, which were endorsed, included increased access to low cost flights to liberty ports for families and improving shore establishment response to dependents' needs. Some differences in responses between officers and enlisted personnel were found, with officers more focused on fixing the "mechanics" of deployment (e.g., length) and enlisted personnel more supportive of solutions related to increased pay and allowances. Listed below are the major findings, with specific results appearing in Appendix D.

#### Officers:

- a. There was a strong endorsement of solutions relating to reducing the amount of time at sea (e.g., assuring shore rotation after one sea tour).
- b. There was moderate support of solutions increasing family contact and communication (e.g., providing access to low cost flights for families to liberty ports).
- c. There was less support for specific "support function" solutions (e.g., expanding child care centers, encouraging support groups). However, the more general "improving shore establishment response to dependent's needs" had a 76 percent agreement.

#### Enlisted:

- a. Providing better pay was considered most important.
- b. Suggestions relating to increased contact with family and shortening sea duty had high agreement.
- c. Least agreement was for indirect solutions (e.g., more assistance from ombudsman, expanding child care). However, the more general "improving shore establishment response to dependent's needs" had a 71 percent agreement.

#### Family Separation: Differences Due to Marital Status and Gender

Specific comparisons of the effects of marital status and gender were requested by the sponsor. In line with the previous research outlined above, it would be expected that married personnel would suffer more from the effects of family separation than single persons whose family (e.g., parents) typically do not depend on them for financial support as much as the spouse and children of a married person. Similarly, since deployment separation is rarer for women, the family separation issues should impact less on them.

Comparisons for marital status and gender effects were done using <u>t</u>-tests, the results of which are presented in Appendix F. The few female officers in the sample precluded gender comparisons for officers.

#### 1. Marital Status Differences: Officers

Single and married officers gave mostly similar responses to family separation questions. There were only a few statistically significant differences, which should be interpreted cautiously, given the large number of comparisons that were done. Listed below are the major findings.

- a. Married officers indicated that family separation made family problems more difficult to solve.
  - b. Single officers were willing to tolerate more family separation than married officers.

#### Marital Status Differences: Enlisted

Differences indicate that family separation has a greater negative impact on married than single enlisted personnel. For single personnel, some positive aspects of the separation were found.

- a. Family separation caused greater feelings of stress in married than singles.
- b. Married enlisted personnel attributed their decision to separate more to family reasons, including items such as "negative effect on children," "being away from spouse,"

"increased workload for spouse," and "greater disruption of the family," than did single enlisted personnel.

- c. Single enlisted personnel felt that family separation increased personal independence and maturity more than married enlisted personnel did.
- d. Single enlisted personnel were willing to tolerate more family separation than were married personnel.
- e. Married enlisted personnel were more in favor of shortening deployments as a way of reducing family separation than single enlisted personnel.

#### Gender Differences: Enlisted

Males were more negatively affected by the family separation problem. This may be due to the fact that they are separated for longer periods of time at sea than females who less frequently are placed in sea billets.

- a. Males felt that family separation induced greater feelings of depression and loneliness than did females.
- b. As compared to females, males said that family separation induced more psychological problems, made family problems harder to solve, and caused the family to suffer financial difficulty. (See Appendix F).
- c. Males felt that family separation prevented completion of education and hindered getting married more than did females.
- d. Males said that they separated from the Navy more because of loss of time with family and inability to help the family in crisis than did females.
- e. Males thought that having fewer work-ups and putting additional woman in sea billets would help to reduce the problem of family separation more than females did.

#### **Petty Regulations**

1. What is the definition of a petty regulation?

During the interviews, a wide range of answers was obtained in response to "what is a petty regulation." Generally the responses fell into three broad categories: (a) specific policies (e.g., uniform regulations, weight standards); (b) differential/unfair rules (e.g., rules for the sake of having rules, different commands have different rules); (c) other regulations (e.g., promotion regulations). Those who completed the enlisted questionnaire were given a list of items derived

from the interviews and asked to indicate the degree to which they agreed that each of the items was a petty regulation. The results (see Appendix D) indicated that:

- a. Most respondents agreed that petty regulations referred to excessive, differentially enforced, and unjustifiable rules.
- b. Specific rules, regulations, and policies such as weight standards, drug/urine testing, and grooming standards were not endorsed by most as being petty regulations.
- c. Males were more troubled by petty regulations than females, endorsed more items as being examples of petty regulations (e.g., grooming standards, inspections), and said that petty regulations had made them want to separate from the Navy more than females did (see Appendix F).
- d. Single and married enlisted personnel generally did not differ in their views of petty regulations with the exception that singles considered "liberty regulations" and "married people receiving higher pay" to be examples of petty regulations more than married respondents did.
- 2. Who establishes these petty regulations (e.g., is it policy set in OPNAV, Naval base rules set by the CO, or rules set by the work center supervisor)?

The results clearly show that respondents saw individuals comprising their local chain of command as being primarily responsible for establishing petty regulations. Specifically, the CO/Executive Officer (XO) received the highest agreement (78%) as the entity establishing petty regulations. t-tests on the mean agreement scores found that the CO/XO rating was significantly higher than all subsequent items. It was also clear that petty regulations were not seen as stemming from officials within the Navy central structure (e.g., CNO, Admirals, Naval Military Personnel Command (NMPC)). Given that most respondents viewed petty regulations as unfairly enforced rules and policies, it is not surprising that those who set and enforce these policies on a day-to-day basis (CO/XO, Officer in Charge, Chain of Command) would be seen as the source of petty regulations. It is also possible that the local sources (CO, XO) are more visible than the Navy's top management and so can be a focus for frustration and anger.

#### 3. What can the chain of command do to decrease the number of petty regulations?

The solution to the petty regulations issue most frequently endorsed was "recognition for a job well done" (91%). t-tests on the mean score indicated that this item was rated significantly higher than all the others on the scale. Also rated high were "prioritization of what is important" and "treating sailors like adults." It is interesting to note that the most frequently endorsed solutions generally did not involve a broad liberalization or elimination of rules. Indeed, "loosen rules at sea," "give slack for minor offenses," and "develop more liberal codes" were the three lowest endorsed items. Thus, it appears that the key to eliminating petty regulations is not a rewriting of the rule book, but rather a more equitable enforcement of the codes which presently exist.

## SPECIFIC RECOMMENDATIONS FOR REDUCING THE FAMILY SEPARATION AND PETTY REGULATIONS PROBLEMS

The purpose of this quick response survey was to assess the impact, scope, and definition of family separation and petty regulations, two of the major dissatisfiers on the OSQ and ESQ. The results as detailed above lead to the following recommendations:

#### **Family Separation**

#### 1. Increase communication with the family

Both the interviews and the results of the survey indicated that lack of communication with the family is a major dimension of the family separation problem. The mean of the summed responses to items relating to negative effects on the family was higher (M's = 4.03 officer, 4.06enlisted) than the combined mean for items relating to the effects of time/distance and deployment  $(\underline{\mathbf{M}}'\mathbf{s} = 3.43 \text{ officer}, 3.69 \text{ enlisted})$ . Although long deployments, in-port duty, work-ups, and other aspects of the separation experience are certainly involved in the decision to leave the Navy, it appears that the combination of not being physically present with the family and the difficulty in maintaining contact when physically separated make the deployment experience particularly trying. Indeed, the Navy's decision to limit the length of long deployments such as WESTPAC to a maximum of 6 months as well as the stipulation that half of a ship's at-home time be in its home port may not be addressing a key facet of the family separation problem: lack of communication with the family during the deployment. The distinction between the actual deployments as the key dissatisfier (which we did not find) and lack of physical presence/lack of communication with family during deployments as the key dissatisfier (which we did find) can be illustrated through the following comment from a male officer: "The Navy has pursued a policy of shortening deployments, when instead they should hit more ports so that spouses can come visit. They would share more in the experiences and the separation would be broken up." Given the nature of Navy life, it is unrealistic to suggest that deployments be further shortened or work-hours reduced. However, the goal of increasing communication with the family is realistic and worthy of pursuing.

Although separation is part of Navy life, the Navy can help to reduce the separation and correlated anxieties by helping to increase communication between personnel and their families; a solution endorsed by 80 percent of enlisted and 68 percent of officers surveyed. There are a number of specific ways in which this might be accomplished. One possibility is to attempt to improve the mail turnaround time. During the interview stage of this investigation, many personnel complained about very long periods of time between the day a letter was sent and the day Navy personnel receive the letter. Additionally, complaints were heard regarding the long time between the day a letter is mailed by Navy personnel and its arrival. As one enlisted respondent expressed it: "Slow mail on deployment, too expensive to phone." Personnel expressed anxiety about this long delay and the fears associated with not knowing what was happening at home. If such communication were facilitated, some of the anxiety would be alleviated. Concomitant with improved mail service is better and cheaper telephone access. Two respondents suggested that a free phone call monthly or one from every port would lessen the family separation problem. It strikes us as worthy to investigate further the potential impact on separation/retention of improved mail and telephone access. A small pilot program would be a good starting point.

Another aspect of increasing communication with the family relates to the issue of increased access to low cost flights to liberty ports for families. This suggestion, which was frequently stated during the pre-survey interviews, was seen as important by 80 percent of those surveyed.

If phone, mail, and flight access were improved, the negative effects of family separation could be lessened. Hunter and Hickman (1981, p.6) have similarly suggested that increased communication can mitigate the negative effects of family separation: "Emotional support can be offered through frequent correspondence and telephone calls. The husband can be involved in helping with family issues and decisions that crop up while he is away. Through these contacts, he assures the family members of his interest and concern and thus helps reduce anxiety."

While improving communication seems most beneficial to married personnel, single persons also stand to gain. During the interviews, many single persons indicated that not being able to stay in contact with their girlfriends/boyfriends as well as their parents and relatives was distressing. The single person's family separation distress could also be lessened if increased opportunities for communication were provided.

#### 2. Improve shore establishment response to dependents' needs

Both officers (76%) and enlisted personnel (71%) generally agreed that the problem of family separation could be reduced by improving the shore establishment's response to dependents' needs. Interestingly, specific "shore establishment" functions such as child care and "encouraging support groups" were not endorsed as highly as the more general "improve shore establishment response to dependents' needs." Thus, while the dissatisfaction does not seem to focus on any one specific support function, there was general consensus that the overall shore establishment response needed to be improved.

One area where improvement seems warranted is in educating families about the nature and hardships involved in deployment. As one officer in our sample indicated: "Dependent families need more education on the nature of a deploying serviceman." Similarly, an enlisted respondent noted: "Educate member and spouse of problems that may arise due to work-ups, changes in cruise dates, deployments, etc." While the existing Navy Family Support Services Centers (FSCs) do deal with this and related issues, it was frequently mentioned in interviews that officers and their families are hesitant to make use of FSCs for fear of being stigmatized. Since the problems of family separation were found to be similar for both enlisted personnel and officers, it may require a strong "marketing effort" to reduce officers' reluctance to utilize programs and services offered by FSCs.

A specific technique used extensively in civilian organizational settings, the Realistic Job Preview (RJP), may be a useful addition to the predeployment seminars now offered by the FSCs.

#### 3. Utilize RJPs technique for issues related to family separation/deployment

One of the interesting findings of the survey was the relatively low "maximum deployment tolerance" both officers and enlisted personnel gave. As is discussed above, very few of the respondents indicated that they could tolerate more than 50 percent family separation in the

coming year without separating from the Navy. However, asking individuals who have already decided to separate how much family separation they could tolerate can lead to biased responses in that the individuals are motivated to justify their actions. As suggested previously, this issue should be further investigated with comparisons on maximum deployment tolerance made between individuals remaining in the Navy, individuals who are separating, and those beginning their careers.

If we take the responses obtained for the time issue at face value, then it appears that the source of discontent among many individuals is a lack of congruence between their expectations about deployment and the actual experience. A recommendation from specialists in human resource management and organizational behavior is to deal with this problem at the career entry stage (i.e., recruit training, officer commissioning programs, pre-deployment counseling). Personnel would be put through a selection process, which would target those for whom lengthy deployment is especially problematic. A good way to do this is through the use of RJPs (Wanous, 1980, 1989).

The RJP is a method that tries to reduce attrition by individuals who have unrealistically high expectations about a job or career they are entering. The procedure, typically carried out at organizational entry, entails giving those interviewed for particular positions a realistic portrait of what the job is like, including both positive and negative information. Wanous' (1989) description seems particularly appropriate for dealing with unrealistic expectations about Navy deployment:

The RJP is designed to "vaccinate" expectations. That is, the RJP presents the reality of organizational life prior to entry, just as a medical vaccination is given prior to a disease. There are two consequences to expectation vaccination. The first is that newcomers are better able to cope with the new and strange organization because they know what to expect and have a "head start" on thinking about coping. The second consequence is that newcomers are less likely to blame the organization for disappointments they experience. This is because they know they have been forewarned about some of the negative factors associated with the new job.

In a review in organizational settings, Premack and Wanous (1985) found significant increases in job survival (i.e., retention) in organizations that used RJPs at organizational entry. Although initial expectations about the job were lowered when RJPs were used, there were ultimate increases in commitment to the organization, job satisfaction, and work performance. However, it should be noted that increases in retention will still occur, but be smaller (2-3%), when RJPs are used after individuals are already committed to military service, as would be the case if RJPs were used in predeployment seminars. Applied to the present discussion, it is recommended that further surveys be done to determine whether entering officers and enlisted personnel have unrealistic expectations about the length and effects of extended deployment. While most individuals are aware of the objective components of deployment (i.e., time away), they may have unrealistic expectations about the subjective aspects (e.g. loneliness, boredom) of the deployment experience. If this is found to be the case, a systematic RJP program initiated by the FSCs in their predeployment seminars could reduce future premature separation. The RJP technique need not replace current predeployment seminars provided by the FSCs but could be used as a supplemental program to those currently offered.

#### **Petty Regulations**

#### 1. Give credit for a job well-done

The results of the survey relating to petty regulations were straightforward. Most respondents thought petty regulations were to refer to excessive, ambiguous, differentially enforced rules and regulations rather than to specific rules and policies. Items related to "differential enforcement of rules" had a combined mean that was higher (3.79) than the combined means of items relating to "general regulations" (3.51) or "specific rules" (3.07). Thus, an optimal solution to the problem does not require a systematic liberalization of the "rule book" but rather a more equitable enforcement of what presently exits. Indeed, the Navy structure was not seen as the source of petty regulations. Rather, most respondents viewed their local chain of command (e.g., CO/XO) as being responsible for establishing petty regulations. The most popularly endorsed solution "give credit for a job well-done" appears to us to be a practical and potentially fruitful course of action.

A goal of giving credit for a job well-done strikes us as largely an educational task. A starting point would be to brief commands about the results of this survey so as to make them aware of the petty regulations problem and to suggest increased recognition of a job well-done as a way of dealing with it. This could be done by the CNO Retention Team during its yearly worldwide retention briefings. Providing results of this survey to commands is in line with a popular organizational development technique called "survey-guided feedback" in which the results of a survey are used to promote organizational change. Further surveys can then assess the effectiveness of the change.

As part of the process of reducing petty regulations, current leadership training should be scrutinized to determine the extent to which this concept of reinforcement of good work is emphasized. If necessary, a training module should be developed and incorporated into the leadership training currently provided to officers and senior enlisted personnel, which would educate officers in those human relations/management skills such as giving praise and acknowledging achievements that would reduce the tendency to differentially enforce the rules. Furthermore, with 86 percent of those surveyed recommending that sailors ought to be treated like adults, it seems that the application of simple human relations skills would greatly help to foster the rules of the Navy, while accomplishing this with the least resistance and resentment.

Giving credit for a job well-done may seem an intuitively obvious strategy; however, decades of psychological research, both in and out of organizations, has shown that positively rewarding individuals for their performance, if done properly, can effectively improve behavior. This may require that officers be trained in a program that emphasizes identifying and rewarding good performance (cf., Giacalone & Rosenfeld, 1987). Rather than the standard military reward system in which rewards (e.g., medals, citations) are typically given at the end of tours, it is suggested that these "social rewards" (e.g., praise) be linked in time and place with specific behaviors. Giving credit for a job well-done will not only mitigate negative feelings associated with lack of recognition, but will also help to identify and promote competent and effective sailors.

#### General Recommendations: Future Directions and Areas of Investigation

#### 1. Survey those who reenlist and compare to those who separate

Although the current administration of the separation and retention questionnaires treats attrition and retention as separate processes, they may however reflect opposite ends of the same dimension. To better understand the aspects of Navy life that result in separation or continued service, future work should compare a sample of individuals separating with a sample of those reenlisting. For example, it may be that the coping skills of families of those reenlisting differ from those who decide to separate. Identification of these successful coping strategies could be used by training programs seeking to reduce voluntary attrition. Hence, such comparisons are not only useful in helping to determine where problems lie, but may also help to anticipate problems and take the needed steps to avoid losing personnel.

#### 2. Conduct a random sample survey assessing dissatisfiers among those in the active Navy

Because of the limited scope and time of the present survey and the difficulties involved in determining in advance who is separating and when, it was deemed impractical to use random sampling techniques. Thus, generalizations from these findings to the entire Navy should be made very cautiously. It is recommended that the results of the present study be pursued with a random sample survey of the active Navy. This survey could stratify on variables such as marital status, community, occupation, and length of service, and provide a more accurate picture of the prevalence of dissatisfiers in the active Navy than is done by either the present survey or by the existing separation and retention questionnaires. Also, because the separation and retention surveys are administered after the career decision point, answers may reflect more rationalizations for the decision than actual reasons. Consequently, information gathered apart from time of the decision may be more accurate and provide opportunities for improvements by the Navy before losing personnel.

## 3. Revise the separation questionnaires and revamp the process of collecting information from separating personnel

For last, we have left our most extensive recommendation. Although the separation questionnaires have been used for nearly a decade, it is presently concluded that both the officer and enlisted versions should be revised. Changes need to be made to the present form of the separation questionnaires, as well as the way in which the questionnaires are administered and monitored. Despite a computer search of DOD sources and a search of files at NAVPERSRANDENCEN, we were unable to find any documentation relating to the psychometric properties (e.g., reliability, validity) of the separation questionnaires. Thus, the possibility exists that the instruments as presently constructed are inadequate and may be the source of inaccurate information about the dissatisfiers they attempt to assess. Even if one assumes that the ESQ and OSQ are psychometrically acceptable instruments, they would nonetheless need revision to include dissatisfiers that have increased in importance in the last decade and are not on the current version of the questionnaires. For example, other analyses of the separation/retention issue have noted that a major factor in the decision to separate involves the perception of the demand for a person's skill in the outside labor market (Morrison, 1987). The issue of outside economic opportunities as a reason for separation also was raised by a number of people we

interviewed, but it is found nowhere on either the officer or enlisted separation questionnaires or the current versions of the officer and enlisted retention questionnaires. It is recommended that the officer and enlisted questionnaires be revised to reflect the current range of dissatisfiers. Along with the revision, it is important to improve the methods by which these data are gathered and to have clear goals for how the data are to be utilized. An addendum to this report provides a detailed analysis of what these changes should be and a practical guide for their enactment.

#### **ADDENDUM**

## A FRAMEWORK FOR REVISING THE PROCESS OF COLLECTING NAVY SEPARATION DATA

#### Overview

The research and practitioner literature in the area of separation (or exit) interviews in organizations provides a basic set of principles on which the process of gathering Navy separation data can be modeled. Inasmuch as the separation interview is but a subset of the more general category of survey research, the use of the separation interview literature as a basis for gathering naval separation information represents a rather straightforward application of research-based principles.

#### **Principles of Separation Interviews**

In reviewing the practitioner and research literature on separation interviews, five essential principles are apparent.

First, effective information can only be obtained from separation data if all separating personnel are asked to participate in the interview/questionnaire process. Limiting the number of personnel as a result of problematic surveying procedures will result in less accurate assessments of the nature of the problems. In terms of Navy separation, the low response rates of the OSQ and ESQ indicate a large number of separating personnel are not being surveyed; the response rates thus need to be increased.

Second, if the data from the separation interview are to be valid and reliable, responding personnel must feel that there is no danger of retaliation nor negative impact on them personally or on friends they leave behind. When such retaliation is either explicitly or implicitly implied, or is otherwise feared by the respondent, the data will be distorted (Jablonski, 1975).

Third, it is important that all separating personnel be asked similar questions, but such questions must be supported by follow-up questions that examine unique information which separating personnel feel is important. In fact, a significant strength which interviews provide (as compared to paper and pencil questionnaires) is that the interviewer can follow-up on interesting and important information that the respondent has provided (Drost, O'Brien, & Marsh, 1987). If it is deemed impractical to ask everyone follow-up questions, random sampling techniques can be used to provide accurate estimations about the characteristics of the entire separating population from the responses of the relatively few in the sample.

Fourth, it is imperative that the data from those who involuntarily separate be appraised and treated in a different context than those obtained from voluntarily separating personnel. Because the reasons behind the separation are very different, and the individuals who fall into these categories have different characteristics, any combination of these data are likely to distort the true meaning of the results (Lefkowitz & Katz, 1969).

Fifth, the accuracy of data taken during the separation interview must be gauged against follow-up data which seek to measure the consistency between initial reasons for separation and those reasons provided some time after separation. The reasons which separating personnel are willing (and able) to tell during separation may be quite different from that which they will tell later on (Hinrichs, 1971; Lefkowitz & Katz, 1969). Thus, occasional follow-up studies on individuals who have previously separated are necessary. Based on these principles, a series of recommendations are offered, which would bring the Navy separation questionnaires closer in line with the current practices of organizations that use separation interviews.

#### 1. Review and Revise the Officer and Enlisted Questionnaires and their Administration

As argued above, the officer and enlisted questions and scales need general revisions. First, it is advisable to do a study which would investigate whether the categories in each of the questionnaires are still relevant and whether the scales and scoring methods are appropriate. There is concern as to whether the categories are all inclusive, whether the 30 dissatisfiers specified a decade ago are still important today, and whether new issues have developed. It is reasonable that with the changing norms and social values, some changes in attitudes toward leaving the Navy are likely to have occurred.

Second, given the hectic pace of activities of separating enlisted personnel, it is imperative that the separation interview be given at some period of time prior to the final days before actual separation. If we learned anything from several weeks spent at PSD-San Diego, it is that a busy PSD is not the optimal location to administer a standardized questionnaire. Separating personnel have too many other things to do during this time and are more concerned with fiscal/relocation matters than they are in providing the Navy with information that is of little use to them personally at the time.

Third, studies on separation interviewing (e.g., Garrison & Ferguson, 1977) have noted that there needs to be some place where the separating person can give open-ended comments. This is particularly important if separating personnel feel that the actual issue for leaving either is not on the questionnaire or has been inadequately stated on the questionnaire. While the current OSQ provides space to include additional reasons for separation, there is no such opportunity on the ESQ. Finally, there is a need to explain clearly to separating personnel why the information is important and how it will be used by the Navy. During our interviews, it seemed that neither the separating personnel nor the individuals administering the questionnaires had a clear picture of why this data were being gathered and to what uses it would be put. Some organizational researchers suggest that all questions be stated in terms that emphasize the information is to be used to improve the current work situation (Bahn, 1965; Zarandona & Camuso, 1985). Such information may lessen the perception that the OSQ and ESQ are evaluative instruments and thus elicit more truthful responses.

#### 2. Provide Incentives or Enforce Regulations to Increase Response Rates

The low response rates for the enlisted and retention questionnaires over the past years represents a significant problem when considering application of questionnaire data to policy making. The data are problematic for a number of reasons. First, there is the question of whether the sample in the separation questionnaires is representative of the general population of separating

enlisted personnel and officers. This creates further questions such as whether any particular problem areas may be more or less severe in the overall separating population, whether those with particular reasons for separating decided not to respond, or whether particular problem sites chose not to administer the survey. Regardless of the interpretation, such a potentially biased sample may have produced results which obscured, distorted, or lessened the accuracy of the obtained data.

It is therefore suggested that the Navy establish and enforce directives which provide for the completion of the questionnaire and mechanisms to ensure that completion is standard throughout Navy or provide incentives for such completion. Establishing directives or providing incentives can be done either directly to separating enlisted personnel and officers or to the appropriate individuals at the commands in which they separate. In either case, the essential goal to be attained is a significant increase in the response rate.

#### 3. Allow Anonymous Responding

Research in the behavioral and management sciences indicate responses that can be directly linked to a particular individual will be often be distorted in a socially desirable way (e.g., Giacalone & Rosenfeld, 1986; Schlenker, 1980). The literature on separation interviews points to a variety of reasons why such distortion may occur. These reasons are summarized in Table 1, which appears in the Appendix G.

The literature on self-presentation and impression management (Giacalone & Rosenfeld, 1989; Schlenker, 1980), however, provides us with a direct alternative which can minimize the distortion: Have respondents fill out the questionnaire anonymously. Anonymity can be obtained in a variety of ways. First, the individual's name and identification number should not be requested on the questionnaire itself. Alternatively, the respondent can be given the questionnaire by a third party who is not affiliated with the Armed Services. Such changes will result in more honest responses because the individual respondents feel that they cannot be identified, and hence are not likely to suffer negative consequences. Such anonymity has been shown to produce more honest responses in the separation interview literature (Hinrichs, 1971). Hinrichs (1971, 1975) found that when respondents were interviewed by outside consultants, their responses to why they left were more negative and their dissatisfaction with the content of their job more pronounced. It is for this reason that researchers have suggested that separation interviews either be done anonymously or that respondents be assured of the anonymity of their responses (Drost, O'Brien, & Marsh, 1987; Zarandona & Camuso, 1985).

A main drawback to such anonymity is that the data collected cannot be directly linked to individuals in the enlisted or officer data bases, which may be of interest especially if a follow-up study is done. However, if some demographic data were collected, a separation data base consisting of anonymous responses coupled with some demographic information (and no identification) would be useful.

#### 4. Create Separate Questionnaires for Voluntary and Involuntary Separations

Two issues arise here. First, should those who have been involuntarily separated be given a separation questionnaire? Second, should the data of both voluntary and involuntary separations be collected in one questionnaire and combined? In truth, the first question cannot be definitively

answered, since some argue against two distinct interviews, while others (e.g., Bahn, 1965) seem to favor them. However, it would seem that involuntary separation questionnaire data should be collected with a separate instrument for the military, given the serious causes that lead to involuntary separation in the military and its potentially severe consequences.

The second question can be answered more definitively: Voluntary and involuntary separation data should not be aggregated for a number of reasons. There is some doubt as to whether the factors which lead to voluntary and involuntary separation are the same. Even if the reasons were virtually identical, the question remains as to why those individuals who decide to voluntarily separate choose to do so, and why those who involuntarily separate are instead forced to leave.

Furthermore, those who voluntarily separate are far less likely to be embarrassed or uneasy about particular incidents which led to the separation, while those who involuntarily separate may fear that discussion of the reasons for separation may lead to further problems. Thus, there may be a greater reason for those who involuntarily separate to distort the reasons for separation. There are other reasons why voluntary and involuntary separation responses should not be aggregated. Based on the literature on separation interviewing, Table 2 in Appendix G summarizes these other reasons.

#### 5. Do a Reading Level Study of the Questionnaires

Throughout the second phase of the project (interviews of recent separating officers and enlisted personnel), it became obvious that there might be a reading level problem with the enlisted personnel. Specifically, a number of enlisted men and women did not know the meaning of words that were on the separation questionnaire. A common mistake involved the meaning of the word "petty" which enlisted personnel often thought referred to salary or compensation issues (as in "petty cash"). Additionally, a few of the items are also unclear because they involve more than one specific issue (as is the case with the wording of "petty regulations").

Individuals who have difficulty comprehending the items on the questionnaire may distort their responses. Whether this is a significant problem within the enlisted ranks or was limited to the sample that we encountered should be explored. Moreover, these interviews may further indicate the need to compare the reading ability of entering enlisted recruits to the reading level of the ESQ.

#### 6. Allow for Both Immediate and Follow-up Surveying

The use of immediate versus follow-up surveying is a major issue. A variety of studies on separation interviewing have noted that follow-up questionnaires or interviews to the initial separation interview may provide useful information regarding the validity and reliability of the initial data gathered. Zarandona and Camuso (1985) found that an 18 month follow-up revealed that many former employees had revised their primary reason for separating. Interestingly, the particular reasons why individuals separate may not even be mentioned in the initial interview, but may surface as important factors in a follow-up (Hinrichs, 1971, 1975). Additionally, given the potential for an individual to put their best foot forward in order to prevent negative repercussions, the follow-up may serve as a means of validating the instrument as an accurate measure, as well as

to provide supplementary information not asked in the initial questionnaire. In essence, the followup would serve as a validation check on the initial questionnaire.

It is therefore suggested that a system be implemented which follows-up on the initial separation questionnaire. This can be done by gathering follow-up data from a representative sample of those who separated (via questionnaire or interview). The follow-up may seek to verify the initial data gathered, gather additional information on particular issues of interest that the respondent posed, investigate the individual's satisfaction with his or her decision to separate, or serve as the basis for revision of the questionnaire.

#### 7. Perform Ongoing Analyses to Determine the Need for and Uses of Separation Data

A major point made in the separation interview literature is that even the best data are useless unless they are utilized properly. One important use of the separation questionnaire would seem to be in the identification and monitoring of basic trends within the Navy community (e.g., effect of sea-shore rotation policy). The monitoring should be done with the intention of serving important Navy functions by providing standard and recurring analyses specified in advance which are consistent with the stated uses of the information. The potential uses that monitoring can provide are listed in Table 3 in Appendix G.

How might the Navy monitor its separation measures to ensure that the data are being optimally utilized? An analysis of why the separation data are being gathered, who needs the information and how the results will be used should be done. As a starting point the following questions need to be considered:

- a. What is important? That is, what answers are we looking for?
- b. Who is going to use the information (Fleet, OP-13, OP-15, SECNAV, or DOD)?
- c. Given the form of the separation questionnaire, can such answers be attained?
- d. Do we wish to look at how individuals within particular categories (e.g. gender, age, community) respond differently? Or are we looking at the global picture?
- e. Are we looking for descriptive trends, or are we attempting to evaluate the effectiveness of a policy change such as one which might have been implemented to increase retention?

It is important to decide in advance the reasons for wanting the data and the purposes to which the results will be put. In the current system, it appears that the data are collected without clear goals as to why it is being gathered or how the results will be used. While the reasons for gathering separation data may change, knowing why the information is important and how and by whom it will be used, will help to provide better answers to issues related to retention and separation. Proper use of the separation questionnaire data could provide direct answers to questions such as "What is the most cited reason for separating from the Navy?" and to the more complicated problem of predicting which individuals are most likely to separate, as well as providing insight for the strategic planning of recruiting into the twenty-first century.

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# APPENDIX A QUICK RESPONSE SURVEY MODIFICATION



#### DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY

OFFICE OF THE CHIEF OF NAVAL OPERATIONS WASHINGTON, DC 20350-2000

IN REPLY REFER TO

1040 ser 136D2/7U378057 13 APR 1987

From: Chief of Naval Operations (OP-136)

To: Commanding Officer, Navy Personnel Research and

Development Center

Subj: QUICK RESPONSE SURVEY MODIFICATION

Ref: (a) Our 1tr ser 136D2/378023 dated 25 Feb 87

(b) PHONCON LT Kresek, OP-136 and DR Morrison, NPRDC of 19 Mar 87

- 1. Cancel reference (a). As we discussed in reference (b), we desire to assess the impact, scope, and definition of two of our major retention dissatisfiers: Family separation; and "petty regulations." For the study, we want a sample population of both officers (O-1 thru O-4) and enlisted (E-3 thru E-7) with total survey costs related to this effort not exceeding 70k.
- 2. On the topic of family separation we are most interested in the answer to three primary questions:
- What is meant by family separation (e.g. six months deployments, frequent TADs, workups before deployment or a combination of all time spent away from family)?
- The Navy is ships and ships mean deployments (i.e. time spent away from families). Given the fact that deployments are part of Navy life, how much family separation is a person willing to accept before he/she decides to separate from the service?
- And lastly, what services or policies would lessen the adverse impact of time spent away from families?
- 3. The second part of the survey would address an item that consistently ranks in the top five dissatisfiers for enlisted personnel: "Too many petty regulations." No similar question appears on the current officer survey, however, we feel that this item applies to both officer and enlisted. The questions we have on this item are:
  - What is the definition of a petty regulation?

#### Subj: QUICK RESPONSE SURVEY MODIFICATION

- Who establishes these petty regulations (e.g. is it policy set in OPNAV, Naval Base rules set by the CO, or rules set by the work center supervisor)?
- What can the chain of command do to decrease the number of petty regulations?
- 4. We desire the results of this study by contact is LT Kresek, AUTOVON 224-5550, or commercial 202-694-5550.

J.B. DELL

Head, Career Programs

Branch (OP-136)

#### APPENDIX B

SUPPLEMENTARY NAVY OFFICER AND ENLISTED QUESTIONNAIRE

### SUPPLEMENTARY NAVY OFFICER QUESTIONNAIRE

#### PRIVACY ACT STATEMENT

Under the authority of 5 USC 301 regulations you are requested to complete this questionnaire. Information furnished will be used for statistical studies to help the Navy improve policies and procedures. It will not be used for any administrative action concerning you specifically and will not be made part of your permanent record. No adverse actions will be taken if you decide not to furnish the requested information.

Researchers at the Navy Personnel Research and Development Center (NPRDC) have been tasked to explore issues related to the separation/retention process. Your answers to the following questions are greatly appreciated. After you have completed the questionnaire please return it in the enclosed envelope along with the separation or retention questionnaire to NAVY PERSONNEL RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT CENTER (CODE 62) SAN DIEGO, CA 92152-6800 (ATTENTION: DR. PAUL ROSENFELD).

В	Δ	CI	K	G	R	0	11	N	n
_	~	•		_		v	u.		_

13.	Are you currently reenlisting? or separating?
12.	Spouse (or spouse equivalent's) career
11	Number of Dependents?
10.	Number of Children
	Widowed, how long?
	Separated how long?
	Divorced
	Married, how long?
	Single
9.	Marital Status
	Age
	Pay Grade
	Community (e.g. aviator)
	Job Title
	Percent of Time at Sea
	Length of Service
	Rank
1.	Gender M F

#### **FAMILY SEPARATION**

A. Family separation has been cited as a reason that many people leave the Navy. To what extent do you agree that this is a reason that you are (or would consider) separating from the Navy (circle one)?

Strongly disagree	Moderately disagree	Neither agree nor disagree	Moderately agree	Strongly	Does not
[1]	[2]	[3]	[4]	agree [5]	<b>a</b> pply [6]

B. Listed below are different ways that family separation has affected the lives of officers in the Navy. Using the scale below, rate the extent to which you agree that family separation has affected you in this manner (Be sure to enter a rating next to each item).

Strongly disagree	Moderately disagree	Neither agree nor disagree	Moderately agree	Strongly agree	Does not apply		
[1]	[2]	[3]	[4]	[5]	[6]		
FAMILY SEI	PARATION H	AS:					
		al independen					
	entea comple ted children	etion of educa	tion				
	ed feelings o	-					
	ented marria						
		use of alcoho	l or drugs				
		self-sufficien					
	-	of depression					
		of strength an		e e			
		children grov					
	ased loneling		•				
		l appreciation	of time spen	it with family			
		gical problem					
		appreclation					
Resu	ited in greate	er appreciation	n of spouse				
Incre	ased job <mark>sa</mark> ti	sfaction					
Resu	Ited in greate	er personal m	aturity				
	ted children	•					
		er maturity in					
Made	family prob	lems more dif	ficult to solve	8			
		r spouse to p					
		r spouse to p		tion			
	•	b more difficu					
	Made spouse more capable of dealing with problems						
Caus	ed family to	suffer financia	al difficulty				
List any oth	er ways in w	hich family se	eparation in t	he Navy has	affected your life.		
	J				<del></del>		
<del></del>	<del> </del>				<del></del>		

C. To what extent do you agree that each of the following espects of family separation is the reason that you are (or would consider) separating from the Navy.

Strongly	Moderately		Moderately	Strongly	Does not
disagree [1]	[2]	nor disagree [3]	agree [4]	agree [5]	<b>a</b> pply [6]

MY DECISION TO SEPARATE (OR CONSIDER SEPARATING) FROM THE NAVY IS DUE TO:

N	ot being pres	ent as childr	en are growi	ng up		
- In	creased worl	kload on my	spouse	•		
E1	ffects on spo	use's career	•			
	rrects on spo	use's educat	ion			
L	oss of time w	ith family				
A	bsence durin	g important	family events	3		
E 1	IRPLINITION AT T	PA TOPSIII				
s	eeing effects	on friends warred for child or moves paration allow	ho experienc	ce separation	1	
E	xpenses incu	irred for child	care			
M	aking plans f	or moves				
<u>L</u>	ow family ser	paration allow	vance			
P	roblems with	child care				
P	oor mail syst	em				
P	oor mail syst	em				
P	oor maii syst	em				
P	oor mail syst	em				
Pi	roblems with	child care				
<u>5</u>	rohlame with	child care	101100			
Lo	ow tamily sep	paration allov	vance			
—— i"	ow family say	paration allow	vanca			
M	aking plans t	for moves				
M	aking plans (	ior moves				
5	akina njane (	or movee				
E	xpenses incu	irred for child	care			
	vnenses incu	irred for child	1 care			
S	eeing effects	on triends w	no experient	ce separation	1	
	ooing offooto	on friends w	ha avnarian	na congretion	•	
E 1	IRPLINITION AT T	PA TOPSIII				
E 1	IRPLINITION AT T	PA TOPSIII				
A	bsence durin	ig important i	ramily events	3		
	bsence durin	a important t	family events	2		
L	oss of time w	ith family				
	nes of time w	ith family				
	rrects on spo	use's educat	ion			
	rects on spo	use's career	•			
E	ifacts on sno	usa's carear	opoul			
In	creased worl	kload on my :	spouse			
!	or nemd hies	dent as ciliui	en ale growi	ng up		
N	ot being pres	ent as childr	en are growi	na up		
B	eing away fro	om spouse				
L(	oneliness of s	spouse or ch	ildren			
	ersonal lonel					
יש ביי	micuity gettii	ng reassimila	itea into the i	ramily		
		e roccimile	ted into the	family		
N	native effect	t on my relati	onshin with	children		
Si	ingle parenth	ood respons	ibilities			
		unication with				
			h famili.			
	ong work wee					
In	ability to heli	p my family li	n crisis situa	tion		
In	-port duty					
	bsence from	my iamily				
			Cilouis			
÷:	me away to s	ttend Navy s	choole			
Ti	me away from	n home durir	na overhaul d	of ships		
In	convenience	resulting fro	m constant r	noving		
		d away from				
<u>L</u> c	ong nours pri	or to deployi	nent			
L	CK Of Stabilit	y in one geo	Brahincai are	e d		
		deployment				
	amily reluctar		_			

E. Using the scale which follows, rate to what extent you agree that each of the suggestions listed below can help reduce the problem of family separation.

Neither

Strongly disagree [1]	Moderately disagree [2]		Moderately agree [4]	Strongly agree [5]	Does not apply [6]
CAN HELP I	REDUCE THE	PROBLEM C	F FAMILY SE	PARATION	
Bette	r communica	ition with fam	ily		
Provi	ding better p	ay			
Provi	ding more pe	ersonnel			
Enco	uraging supp	ort groups			
Provi	ding more as	sistance for d	ombudsman j	ourposes	
Provi	ding adequat	te family servi	ces to depen	dents	
Educa	ating depend	ents on availa	able assistan	ce	
		stablishment			' needs
Provi	ding access	to low cost fli	ghts to libert	y ports for fa	amilies
Supp	orting co-loc	ation policy			
Short	ening deploy	ments			
Assui	ring personn	el of shore ro	tation after o	ne sea tour	
Havin	g fewer work	c-ups			
Devel	oping a bette	er <mark>manage</mark> mei	nt of time pric	or to cruises	<b>,</b>
Expar	nding child c	are centers to	include nigh	it care	
Puttin	ng more wom	en in sea bille	ets		
Increa	asing separa	tion allowance	8		
Adjus	ting shore w	orking hours	to provide m	ore time for	family
List any thir separation.	ngs that you	think would le	essen the neg	ative impac	t of family
		<del></del>		<del></del>	

### SUPPLEMENTARY NAVY ENLISTED QUESTIONNAIRE

### PRIVACY ACT STATEMENT

Under the authority of 5 USC 301 regulations you are requested to complete this questionnaire. Information furnished will be used for statistical studies to help the Navy Improve policies and procedures. It will not be used for any administrative action concerning you specifically and will not be made part of your permanent record. No adverse actions will be taken if you decide not to furnish the requested information.

Researchers at the Navy Personnel Research and Development Center (NPRDC) have been tasked to explore issues related to the separation/retention process. Your answers to the following questions are greatly appreciated. After you have completed the questionnaire please return it in the enclosed envelope along with the separation or retention questionnaire to NAVY PERSONNEL RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT CENTER (CODE 62) SAN DIEGO, CA 92152-6800 (ATTENTION: DR. PAUL ROSENFELD).

1.	Gender M F
	Rank
	Length of Service
4.	Percent of Time at Sea
5.	Job Title
	Community (e.g. aviator)
7.	Pay Grade
В.	Age
9.	Marital Status. (check one)
_	_ Single
	_ Married, how long?
	_ Divorced
	_ Separated, how long?
_	_ Widowed, how long?
	Number of Children
11	Number of Dependents?
12.	Spouse (or spouse equivalent's) career
13.	Are you currently reenlisting? or separating?
	FAMILY SEDABATION

BACKGROUND

### FAMILY SEPARATION

A. Family separation has been cited as a reason that many people leave the Navy. To what extent do you agree that this is a reason that you are (or would consider) separating from the Navy (circle one)?

Canamaka		Neither		Chromolis.	Daga = 4
Strongly disagree	Moderately disagree	agree nor disagree	Moderately agree	Strongly <b>a</b> gree	Does not apply
[1]	[2]	[3]	[4]	<b>a</b> gree [5]	apply [6]

B. Listed below are different ways that family separation has affected the lives of enlisted personnel in the Navy. Using the scale below, rate the extent to which you agree that family separation has affected you in this manner (Be sure to enter a rating next to each Item).

Neither

Strongly disagree [1]	Moderately disagree [2]	agree nor disagree [3]	Moderately agree [4]	Strongly agree [5]	Does not apply [6]
FAMILY SEP	ARATION H	AS:			
		i independen			
Prever	nted complet	ion of educa	tion		
Affect	ed children r	egatively			
Cause	d feelings of	stress			
Prever	ited marriag	e			
Contri	buted to abu	se of alcohol	or drugs		
Made 1	amily more	self-sufficien	t		
Induce	d feelings o	f depression			
			d competence	е	
Prever	nted seeing o	hildren grow	up		
Increas	sed loneline	ss			
Cause	d increased	appreciation	of time spent	with family	
Induce	d psycholog	ical problem	s for me		
Reduc	ed drug and	alcohol abus	e		
Result	ed in better i	appreciation	of children		
Result	ed in greate	appreciation	of spouse		
Increas	sed job satis	faction			
Result	ed in greate	personal ma	aturity		
Affect	•	•			
Result	ed in greate	maturity in o	children		
Made 1	amily proble	ems more diff	icult to solve	!	
Made i	t difficult for	spouse to p	ursue career		
		•	ursue educat	ion	
	•	more difficu			
	•	•	lealing with p	roblems	
Cause	d family to s	uffer financia	l difficulty		
List any othe	r ways in wi	nich family se	paration in th	ne Navy has	affected your life.
	<u></u>			<del> </del>	

C. To what extent do you agree that each of the following aspects of family separation is the reason that you are (or would consider) separating from the Navy.

Strongly	Moderately	~	Moderately	Strongly	Does not
disagree	disagree	nor disagree [3]	agree	agree	apply
[1]	[2]		[4]	[5]	[6]

MY DECISION TO SEPARATE (OR CONSIDER SEPARATING) FROM THE NAVY IS DUE TO:

 Long deployments
 Family reluctance to move
 Short notice of deployments
 Lack of stability in one geographical area
 Long hours prior to deployment
 Being stationed away from family
 Inconvenience resulting from constant moving
 Time away from home during overhaul of ships
 Time away to attend Navy schools
 Absence from my family
 In-port duty
 Inability to help my family in crisis situation
 Long work weeks
 Lack of communication with family
 Single parenthood responsibilities
 Negative effect on my relationship with children
Difficulty getting reassimilated into the family
 Personal loneliness
 Loneliness of spouse or children
 Being away from spouse
 Not being present as children are growing up
 increased workload on my spouse
 Effects on spouse's career
 Effects on spouse's education
 Loss of time with family
 Absence during important family events
 Disruption of the family
 Seeing effects on friends who experience separation
 Expenses incurred for child care
 Low family separation allowance
 Problems with child care
Poor mail system

10% 20% 30% 40% 50% 60% 70% 80% 90% More than 90%  E. Using the scale which follows, rate to what extent you agree that each of the suggestions listed below can help reduce the problem of family separation.  Neither agree disagree or disagree agree agree agree [3] Does not apply [6] CAN HELP REDUCE THE PROBLEM OF FAMILY SEPARATION  Better communication with family Providing better pay Providing more personnel Encouraging support groups Providing adequate family services to dependents Educating dependents on available assistance Improving shore establishment response to dependents' needs Providing access to low cost flights to liberty ports for families Supporting co-relocation policy Shortening deployments Assuring personnel of shore rotation after one sea tour Having fewer work-ups Developing a better management of time prior to cruises Expanding child care centers to include night care Putting more women in sea billets Increasing separation allowance Adjusting shore working hours to provide more time for family separation.	D. I would l during the i	leave the Nav next year sep	y if I had to s arated from r	spend more t ny family. ( <i>c</i>	han <u>pe</u> ircle one)	rcent of my ti	ime
E. Using the scale which follows, rate to what extent you agree that each of the suggestions listed below can help reduce the problem of family separation.  Strongly Moderately agree agree agree agree agree [1] Does not disagree [2] [3] Moderately Strongly apply [6]  CAN HELP REDUCE THE PROBLEM OF FAMILY SEPARATION  Better communication with family Providing better pay Providing more personnel Encouraging support groups Providing more assistance for ombudsman purposes Providing adequate family services to dependents Educating dependents on available assistance Improving shore establishment response to dependents' needs Providing access to low cost flights to liberty ports for families Supporting co-relocation policy Shortening deployments Assuring personnel of shore rotation after one sea tour Having fewer work-ups Developing a better management of time prior to cruises Expanding child care centers to include night care Putting more women in sea billets Increasing separation allowance Adjusting shore working hours to provide more time for family	10%	20%	30%	40%	50%	60%	70%
Strongly Moderately agree nor disagree agree agr	80%	90%	More than 9	0%			
Strongly disagree disagree nor disagree agree agree agree [4] Does not apply [1] [3] [3] [4] [5] [5] [6]  CAN HELP REDUCE THE PROBLEM OF FAMILY SEPARATION  Better communication with family Providing better pay Providing more personnel Encouraging support groups Providing adequate family services to dependents Educating dependents on available assistance Improving shore establishment response to dependents' needs Providing access to low cost flights to liberty ports for families Supporting co-relocation policy Shortening deployments Assuring personnel of shore rotation after one sea tour Having fewer work-ups Developing a better management of time prior to cruises Expanding child care centers to include night care Putting more women in sea billets Increasing separation allowance Adjusting shore working hours to provide more time for family	E. Using th suggestion:	e scale which s listed below	h follows, rate v can help rec	e to what ext duce the pro	ent you agre blem of fami	e that each o ly separation	of the
Better communication with family Providing better pay Providing more personnel Encouraging support groups Providing more assistance for ombudsman purposes Providing adequate family services to dependents Educating dependents on available assistance Improving shore establishment response to dependents' needs Providing access to low cost flights to liberty ports for families Supporting co-relocation policy Shortening deployments Assuring personnel of shore rotation after one sea tour Having fewer work-ups Developing a better management of time prior to cruises Expanding child care centers to include night care Putting more women in sea billets Increasing separation allowance Adjusting shore working hours to provide more time for family	disagree	disagree	agree nor disagree	agree •	agree	apply	
Providing more personnel Encouraging support groups Providing more assistance for ombudsman purposes Providing adequate family services to dependents Educating dependents on available assistance Improving shore establishment response to dependents' needs Providing access to low cost flights to liberty ports for families Supporting co-relocation policy Shortening deployments Assuring personnel of shore rotation after one sea tour Having fewer work-ups Developing a better management of time prior to cruises Expanding child care centers to include night care Putting more women in sea billets Increasing separation allowance Adjusting shore working hours to provide more time for family	CAN HELP	REDUCE THI	E PROBLEM (	OF FAMILY S	SEPARATION	1	
	Provi	iding better priding more pouraging supplicating adequal ating dependently by the properties of the pr	ersonnel port groups ssistance for te family serv dents on avail establishment to low cost fl ocation policy yments nel of shore ro k-ups er manageme eare centers to nen in sea bill ation allowand working hours	ombudsman rices to depe lable assista t response to ights to liber y otation after ent of time pro o include nig lets se s to provide r	ndents nce o dependent rty ports for one sea tour rior to cruise that care	families r family	eparation.
and the second of the second o				•	,		

### **PETTY REGULATIONS**

F. Petty regulations have been cited as a reason that people leave the Navy. To what extent do you feel petty regulations have made you want to leave. (circle one).

Strongly disagree [1]	Moderately disagree [2]		Moderately agree [4]	Strongly agree [5]	Does not apply [6]	
G. Indicate t	he extent to	which you ag	ree that the f	ollowing are	petty regulat	ions.
Strongly disagree [1]	Moderately disagree [2]		Moderately agree [4]	Strongly agree [5]	Does not apply [6]	
THE FOLLO	WING ARE P	ETTY REGUL	ATIONS			
Inspe Unifor Libert Regul Marrie Diffice Weigh Drug/ Laten Duty Requi Autho Prom Differ Minor Smok Eating Exces Barra Differ Rules	ed people redult parking redult parking resting ess regulations irement to redulation regulation regulation regulations in fractions in gregulations sive rules ential enforces for the sake	ns s sed by base p ceiving higher egulations ons peatedly repo ded for activit ions and prac ds have differ are punished	rt to supervisies etices ent regulatio too severely	sor		
					-	
<del></del>	<del></del>				-	

H. Using the scale below, indicate to what extent you feel that each of the individuals or groups listed below establishes, causes or is responsible for petty regulations.

Strongly disagree [1]	Moderately disagree [2]	Neither agree nor disagree [3]	Moderately agree [4]	Strongly agree [5]	Does not apply [6]
ESTABLISH	ES, CAUSES	OR IS RESP	ONSIBLE FO	R PETTY RE	GULATIONS
CNO					
Admi	rals				
Secre	tary of Navy				
Office	er in charge				
	ers in genera	1			
Maste					
	center super				
	ress/governr	nent			
Chief					
NMPC					
OPNA					
CO/X	_				
My su	•				
The D					
	epartment				
<del></del>	chain of Com				
Long	standing Na	vy practice/cu	ıstom		
List others r	not included	above.			
			··.		

1. Using the scale which follows, rate to what extent each of the suggestions listed below can help reduce the number of petty regulations.

Strongly disagree [1]	Moderately disagree [2]	Neither agree nor disagree [3]	Moderately agree [4]	Strongly agree [5]	Does not apply [6]	
CAN HELP I	REDUCE THE	NUMBER OF	PETTY REG	ULATIONS		
Conce Exam Try Id Surve Use a Run c Stand Treat Give a Loose Better No did	tize what is in entrate on join ine the Navy leas for longer by the fleet/ge suggestion is commands me lard enforcents allors like a more slack for credit for a journal ser training of the fferential enforce on merit op more liber	o, not rules structure er periods et feedback box ore like a corp nent of guidel dults er minor offen b well-done a hose in comm	lines by Indiv ses nand	idual comma	ands	
Please list a regulations.		gestions you	may have fo	r reducing th	e number of petty	

APPENDIX C
NAVY DEMOGRAPHICS

# SUPPLEMENTARY NAVY SEPARATION DEMOGRAPHICS

Administered: November, 1987 - January, 1988

Location: San Diego, CA

Norfolk, VA

Pensacola, FL

Pearl Harbor, HI

Participants: N=213 Enlisted

N= 71 Officers

### **NAVY OFFICER DEMOGRAPHICS**

**GENDER:** 

65 Males

6 Females

**AVERAGE AGE:** 

31 years

**AVERAGE LENGTH OF SERVICE:** 

**8.83** years

AVERAGE AMOUNT OF TIME AT SEA:

45 percent

**MARITAL STATUS:** 

Single 47%

Married 48%

Divorced 4%

Widowed 0%

Separated 0%

### **NAVY ENLISTED DEMOGRAPHICS**

**GENDER:** 

171 Males

42 Females

**AVERAGE AGE:** 

25 years

**AVERAGE LENGTH OF SERVICE:** 

**5.64** years

AVERAGE AMOUNT OF TIME AT SEA:

56.37 percent

### **MARITAL STATUS:**

Single 44%

Married 47%

Divorced 4%

Widowed 0%

Separated 4%

### APPENDIX D

SUPPLEMENTARY NAVY SEPARATION QUESTIONNAIRE DATA SUMMARY

### SUPPLEMENTARY NAVY SEPARATION QUESTIONNAIRE

### **DATA SUMMARY**

# EFFECTS OF FAMILY SEPARATION SEPARATING OFFICER RESPONDENTS

92%	Caused increased appreciation of time spent with family
78%	Caused feelings of stress
78%	Increased loneliness
73%	Prevented seeing children grow up
73%	Made family problems more difficult to solve
72%	Resulted in greater appreciation of spouse
67%	Increased personal independence
67%	Made family more self-sufficient
67%	Made spouse's job more difficult
65%	Induced feelings of depression
64%	Affected children negatively
57%	Resulted in greater personal maturity
57%	Made spouse more capable of dealing with problems
56%	Resulted in better appreciation of children
55%	Induced feelings of strength and competence
52%	Prevented marriage
50%	Made it difficult for spouse to pursue education
45%	Prevented completion of education
44%	Made it difficult for spouse to pursue career
26%	Caused family to suffer financial difficulty
19%	Contributed to abuse of alcohol or drugs
17%	Induced psychological problems for me
16%	Resulted in greater maturity in children
14%	Increased job satisfaction
12%	Affected children positively

# REASONS FOR SEPARATION FROM NAVY SEPARATING OFFICER RESPONDENTS

80%	Absence during important family events
79%	Absence from my family
78%	Being away from spouse
78%	Loss of time with family
76%	Long deployments
69%	Not being present as children are growing up
68%	Inconvenience resulting from constant moving
67%	Lack of stability in one geographical area
67%	Being stationed away from family
67%	Inability to help my family in crisis situation
65%	Long hours prior to deployment
63%	Long work weeks
63%	Negative effect on my relationship with children
63%	Disruption of the family
61%	Increased workload on my spouse
57%	Short notice of deployments
55%	Lack of communication with family
55%	Personal loneliness
55%	Loneliness of spouse or children
53%	Family reluctance to move
51%	Time away from home during overhaul of ships
51%	Effects on spouse's career
50%	Difficulty getting reassimilated into the family
50%	Effects on spouse's education
49%	In-port duty
48%	Seeing effects on friends who experience separation
41%	Single parenthood responsibilities
41%	Making plans for moves
38%	Poor mail system
29%	Low family separation allowance
	Problems with child care
24%	Expenses incurred for child care
	Time away to attend Navy schools

# SUGGESTIONS FOR REDUCING PROBLEM OF FAMILY SEPARATION SEPARATING OFFICER RESPONDENTS

89%	Assuring personnel of shore rotation after one sea tour
84%	Shortening deployments
84%	Developing a better management of time prior to cruises
77%	Providing access to low cost flights to liberty ports for families
76%	Improving shore establishment response to dependents' needs
75%	Adjusting shore working hours to provide more time for family
74%	Supporting co-location policy
68%	Better communication with family
67%	Providing more personnel
65%	Having fewer work-ups
61%	Providing better pay
60%	Providing adequate family services to dependents
60%	Educating dependents on available assistance
57%	Increasing separation allowance
52%	Encouraging support groups
48%	Expanding child care centers to include night care
42%	Providing more assistance for ombudsman purposes
37%	Putting more women in sea billets

# EFFECTS OF FAMILY SEPARATION SEPARATING ENLISTED RESPONDENTS

82%	Caused feelings of stress
76%	Increased loneliness
76%	Caused increased appreciation of time spent with family
75%	Induced feelings of depression
70%	Prevented seeing children grow up
70%	Made family problems more difficult to solve
65%	Increased personal independence
63%	Affected children negatively
62%	Resulted in greater appreciation of spouse
62%	Resulted in greater personal maturity
62%	Made spouse's job more difficult
54%	Resulted in better appreciation of children
54%	Made it difficult for spouse to pursue career
49%	Prevented completion of education
49%	Induced feelings of strength and competence
47%	Made it difficult for spouse to pursue education
46%	Prevented marriage
46%	Made family more self-sufficient
46%	Made spouse more capable of dealing with problems
44%	Contributed to abuse of alcohol or drugs
43%	Caused family to suffer financial difficulty
32%	Induced psychological problems for me
23%	Affected children positively
17%	Increased job satisfaction
17%	Resulted in greater maturity in children
16%	Reduced drug and alcohol abuse

## REASONS FOR SEPARATION FROM NAVY SEPARATING ENLISTED RESPONDENTS

86%	Absence during important family events
82%	Loss of time with family
77%	Absence from my family
77%	Not being present as children are growing up
76%	Long hours prior to deployment
74%	Long deployments
74%	Inability to help my family in crisis situation
74%	Loneliness of spouse or children
73%	Being away from spouse
72%	Disruption of the family
70%	Personal loneliness
69%	Short notice of deployments
66%	Being stationed away from family
61%	Lack of communication with family
61%	Increased workload on my spouse
61%	Seeing effects on friends who experience separation
60%	Lack of stability in one geographical area
58%	Inconvenience resulting from constant moving
58%	Long work weeks
57%	Effects on spouse's career
56%	Time away from home during overhaul of ships
53%	Negative effect on my relationship with children
53%	Low family separation allowance
50%	Family reluctance to move
50%	Single parenthood responsibilities
47%	Problems with child care
46%	Difficulty getting reassimilated into the family
46%	Effects on spouse's education
46%	Expenses incurred for child care
46%	Poor mail system
40%	In-port duty
22%	Time away to attend Navy schools

# SUGGESTIONS FOR REDUCING PROBLEM OF FAMILY SEPARATION SEPARATING ENLISTED RESPONDENTS

82%	Providing better pay
80%	Better communication with family
80%	Providing access to low cost flights to liberty ports for families
80%	Developing a better management of time prior to cruises
78%	Shortening deployments
78%	Assuring personnel of shore rotation after one sea tour
78%	Increasing separation allowance
72%	Adjusting shore working hours to provide more time for family
71%	Improving shore establishment response to dependents' needs
69%	Providing more personnel
69%	Educating dependents on available assistance
66%	Providing adequate family services to dependents
66%	Putting more women in sea billets
65%	Supporting co-location policy
64%	Expanding child care centers to include night care
63%	Encouraging support groups
56%	Having fewer work-ups
50%	Providing more assistance for ombudsman purposes

# DEFINITION OF PETTY REGULATIONS SEPARATING ENLISTED RESPONDENTS

/0%	Rules for the sake of having rules
68%	Differential enforcement of rules
67%	Excessive rules
66%	Different commands have different regulations
66%	Minor infractions are punished too severely
59%	Difficult parking regulations
57%	Liberty regulations
55%	Authorization needed for activities
54%	Barracks rules
52%	Inspections
51%	Promotion regulations and practices
47%	Regulations imposed by base police
43%	Duty regulations
42%	Requirement to repeatedly report to supervisor
41%	Uniform regulations
40%	Grooming standards
39%	Lateness regulations
38%	Drug/urine testing
36%	Weight standards
35%	Smoking regulations
33%	Eating regulations
30%	Married people receiving higher pay than singles

# ESTABLISHES PETTY REGULATIONS SEPARATING ENLISTED RESPONDENTS

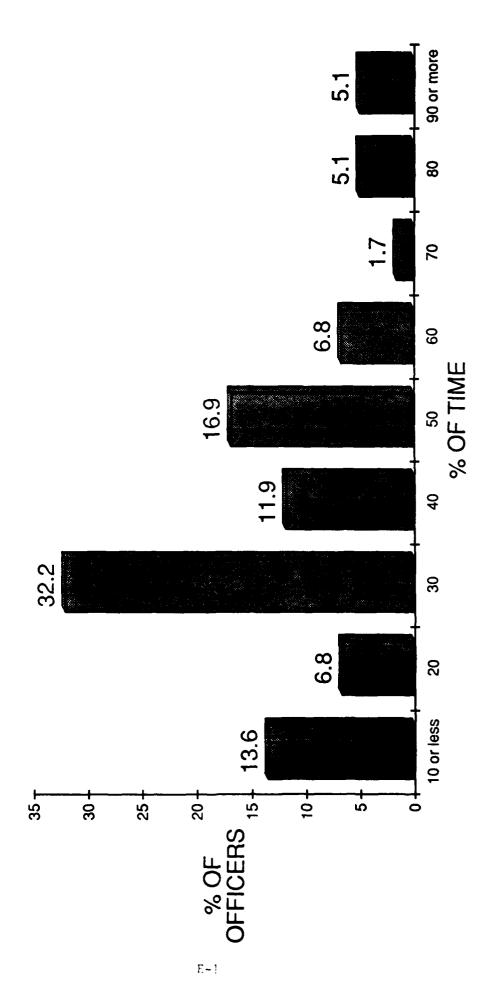
78%	CO/XO
67%	Officer in charge
67%	The Chain of Command
65%	The Department
59%	My superiors
57%	Officers in general
56%	The Division
53%	Work center supervisor
52%	Master Chief
45%	CNO
45%	Admirals
41%	Long standing Navy practice/custom
39%	Secretary of Navy
39%	Chief of Boat
38%	OPNAV
35%	NMPC
33%	Congress/government

# SUGGESTIONS FOR REDUCING NUMBER OF PETTY REGULATIONS SEPARATING ENLISTED RESPONDENTS

91%	Give credit for a job well-done
88%	Prioritize what is important
86%	Treat sailors like adults
80%	Concentrate on job, not rules
80%	Survey the fleet/get feedback
79%	Better training of those in command
73%	Examine the Navy structure
73%	Promote on merit
71%	No differential enforcement of rules
67%	Use a suggestion box
67%	Standard enforcement of guidelines by individual commands
62%	Try ideas for longer periods
55%	Run commands more like a corporation
54%	Loosen rules at sea
51%	Give more slack for minor offenses
50%	Develop more liberal codes

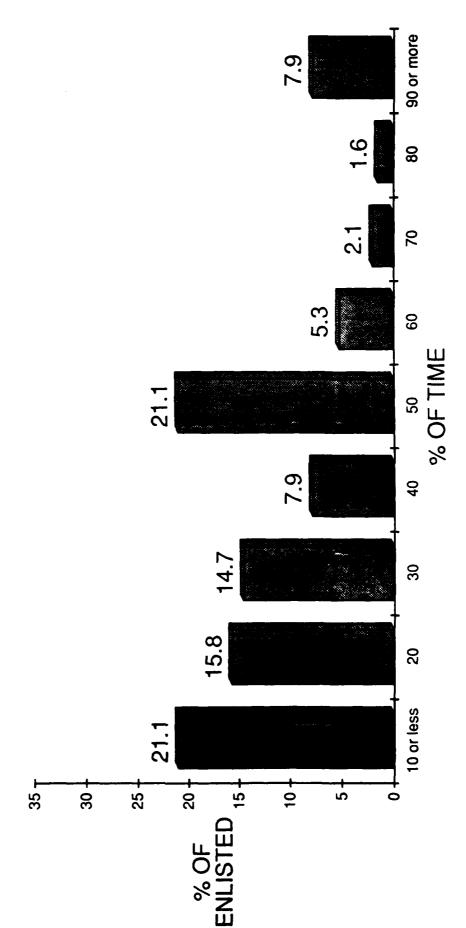
# APPENDIX E TIME SEPARATION GRAPHS

"I would leave the Navy if I had to spend more than \_\_\_% of my time during the year separated from my family"



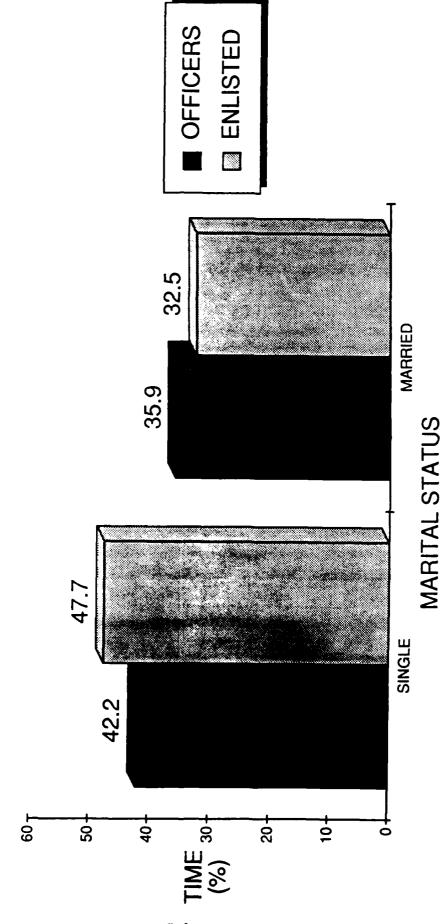
TIME SEPARATION: ENLISTED

"I would leave the Navy if I had to spend more than \_\_\_% of my time during the year separated from my family"



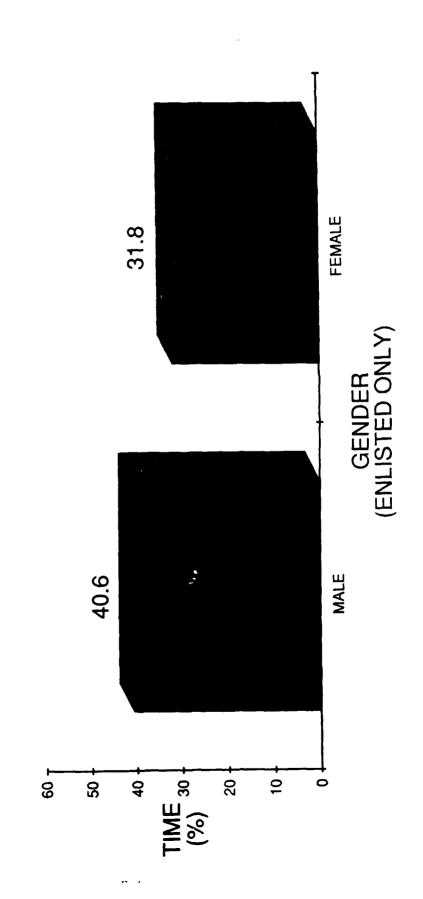
# TIME SEPARATION AND MARITAL STATUS

"I would leave the Navy if I had to spend more than \_\_% of my time during the next year separated from my family"



# TIME SEPARATION AND GENDER

"I would leave the Navy if I had to spend more than \_\_\_% of my time during the next year separated from my family"



# APPENDIX F MARITAL STATUS AND GENDER COMPARISONS

### Effects of Family Separation: Marital Status Differences for Separating Officer Respondents

Single	Married	F	P	
3.95	3.85	. 15	ns	Increased personal independence
3.19	3.14	. 01	ns	Prevented completion of education
3.22	4.08	3.17	ns	Affected children negatively
3.88	4.19	. 96	ns	Caused feelings of stress
4.00	1.86	19.43	.001	Prevented marriage
2.33	1.89	. 93	ns	Contributed to abuse of alcohol or drugs
3.75	4.04	. 61	ns	Made family more self-sufficient
3.64	3.63	.01	ns	Induced feelings of depression
3.32	3.70	1.56	ns	<pre>Induced feelings of strength and   competence</pre>
3.75	4.47	2.07	ns	Prevented seeing children grow up
3.92	4.35	2.17	ns	Increased loneliness
4.65	4.41	1.81	ns	Caused increased appreciation of time spent with family
2.00	2.24	. 39	ns	Induced psychological problems for me
4.00	3.14	2.09	ns	Resulted in better appreciation of children
3.75	4.08	. 65	ns	Resulted in greater appreciation of spouse
1.88	2.11	. 50	ns	Increased job satisfaction
3.79	3.35	1.81	ns	Resulted in greater personal maturity
2.63	1.86	2.54	ns	Affected children positively
2.63	2.36	. 32	ns	Resulted in greater maturity in children
3.69	4.33	6.03	.019	Made family problems more difficult to solve
3.25	3.39	.08	ns	Made it difficult for spouse to pursue career
3.38	3.52	. 07	ns	Made it difficult for spouse to pursue education
3.63	4.30	3.83	ns	Made spouse's job more difficult
3.75	3.62	. 07	ns	Made spouse more capable of dealing with problems
2.78	2.95	. 22	ns	Caused family to suffer financial difficulty

### Reasons for Decision to Separate: Marital Status Differences for Separating Officer Respondents

Single	Married	r	P	
3.96	4.17	. 38	ns	Long deployments
3.47	3.35	. 07	ns	Family reluctance to move
3.30	3.43	.10	ns	Short notice of deployments
3.75	3.64	. 08	ns	Lack of stability in one geo-
				graphical area
3.76	3.86	. 07	ns	Long hours prior to deployment
3.81	4.14	. 98	ns	Being stationed away from family
3.68	3.86	. 26	ns	Inconvenience resulting from constant moving
3.76	3.38	. 91	ns	Time away from home during overhaul of ships
2.81	2.90	. 07	ns	Time away to attend Navy schools
4.00	4.27	. 78	ns	Absence from my family
3.21	3.35	. 11	ns	In-port duty
3.65	3.85	.23	ns	Inability to help my family in crisis situation
3.80	3.43	. 97	ns	Long work weeks
3.41	3.95	2.63	ns	Lack of communication with family
3.33	3.55	. 16	ns	Single parenthood responsibilities
3.56	4.00	. 87	ns	Negative effect on my relationship with children
3.38	3.45	. 03	ns	Difficulty getting reassimilated into the family
3.50	3.64	. 13	ns	Personal loneliness
3.60	4.27	2.85	ns	Loneliness of spouse or children
3.82	4.41	2.74	ns	Being away from spouse
4.00	4.31	. 88	ns	Not being present as children are growing up
3.55	3.95	1.28	ns	Increased workload on my spouse
3.73	3.52	. 23	ns	Effects on spouse's career
3.50	3.38	. 05	ns	Effects on spouse's education
4.20	4.18	.01	ns	Loss of time with family
4.14	4.32	. 41	ns	Absence during important family events
3.82	4.05	. 40	ns	Disruption of the family
3.67	3.43	. 61	ns	Seeing effects on friends who experience separation
3.44	3.00	. 95	ns	Expenses incurred for child care
2.90	3.36	1.82	ns	Making plans for moves
2.79	2.86	. 03	ns	Low family separation allowance
3.56	2.50	5.67	.027	Problems with child care
3.04	2.86	. 26	ns	Poor mail system

### Suggestions to Help Reduce Family Separation Problem: Marital Status Differences for Separating Officer Respondents

Single	Married	r	P	
4.11	3.68	2.13	ns	Better communication with family
3.74	3.73	.01	ns	Providing better pay
3.96	3.80	.26	ns	Providing more personnel
3.63	3.50	. 23	ns	Encouraging support groups
3.42	3.25	. 38	ns	Providing more assistance for ombudsman purposes
3.85	3.68	. 43	ns	Providing adequate family services to dependents
3.84	3.59	. 71	ns	Educating dependents on available assistance
4.00	4.00	.00	ns	<pre>Improving shore establishment   response to dependents' needs</pre>
4.12	4.38	. 91	ns	Providing access to low cost flights to liberty ports for families
4.12	4.20	.10	ns	Supporting co-location policy
4.41	4.31	. 15	ns	Shortening deployments
4.59	4.35	1.02	ns	Assuring personnel of shore rotation after one sea tour
4.11	3.80	. 97	ns	Having fewer work-ups
4.22	4.37	. 42	ns	Developing a better management of time prior to cruises
3.48	3.85	1.58	ns	Expanding child care centers to include night care
3.19	3.04	.14	ns.	Putting more women in sea billets
3.59	3.68	. 07	ns	Increasing separation allowance
4.18	4.00	. 40	ns	Adjusting shore working hours to provide more time for family

### Effects of Family Separation: Marital Status Difference for Separating Enlisted Respondents

Single	Married	F	P	
4.14	3.62	7.65	.006	Increased personal independence
3.47	3.45	. 08	ns	Prevented completion of education
3.67	4.07	2.56	ns	Affected children negatively
4.11	4.52	7.86	.006	Caused feelings of stress
3.89	2.80	17.92	.001	Prevented marriage
3.10	3.24	. 28	ns	Contributed to abuse of alcohol or drugs
3.32	3.40	. 15	ns	Made family more self-sufficient
3.91	4.07	. 92	ns	Induced feelings of depression
3.54	3.34	1.06	ns	Induced feelings of strength and competence
3.68	4.24	4.38	.039	Prevented seeing children grow up
4.05	4.30	2.47	ns	Increased loneliness
3.91	4.27	3.81	.053	Caused increased appreciation of time spent with family
2.83	2.96	. 29	ns	Induced psychological problems for me
2.58	2.77	. 66	ns	Reduced drug and alcohol abuse
3.73	3.75	.01	ns	Resulted in better appreciation of children
3.50	3.93	2.55	ns	Resulted in greater appreciation of spouse
2.70	2.33	3.81	. 053	Increased job satisfaction
4.01	3.45	8.10	.005	Resulted in greater personal maturity
2.89	2.50	1.57	ns	Affected children positively
3.04	2.47	4.06	.048	Resulted in greater maturity in children
3.83	4.09	1.44	ns	Made family problems more difficult to solve
3.56	3.73	. 38	ns	Made it difficult for spouse to pursue career
3.58	3.64	. 05	ns	Made it difficult for spouse to pursue education
3.65	3.93	1.09	ns	Made spouse's job more difficult
3.32	3.48	. 30	ns	Made spouse more capable of dealing with problems
3.05	3.43	2.18	ns	Caused family to suffer financial difficulty

### Reasons for Decision to Separate: Marital Status Differences for Separating Enlisted Respondents

Single	Married	r	P	
4.06	4.26	1.07	ns	Long deployments
3.79	3.57	.76	ns	Family reluctance to move
3.88	3.96	.17	ns	Short notice of deployments
3.79	3.95	.70	ns	Lack of stability in one geo- graphical area
4.11	4.31	1.16	DS	Long hours prior to deployment
4.00	4.15	.71	ns	Being stationed away from family
3.88	3.79	.20	ns	Inconvenience resulting from constant moving
3.70	3.81	.30	ns	Time away from home during overhaul of ships
2.96	3.08	. 39	ns	Time away to attend Navy schools
4.15	4.41	2.63	ns	Absence from my family
3.05	3.40	2.30	ns	In-port duty
4.13	4.26	. 55	ns	Inability to help my family in crisis situation
3.75	3.76	.01	ns	Long work weeks
3.81	3.92	. 33	ns	Lack of communication with family
3.79	3.62	. 38	DS	Single parenthood responsibilities
3.12	4.00	11.68	.001	Negative effect on my relationship with children
3.36	3.57	. 92	ns	Difficulty getting reassimilated into the family
3.97	4.04	. 57	ns	Personal loneliness
3.86	4.33	4.83	.030	Loneliness of spouse or children
3.64	4.41	13.14	.001	Being away from spouse
4.04	4.48	4.15	. 045	Not being present as children are growing up
3.43	4.13	7.65	.007	Increased workload on my spouse
3.55	3.96	2.69	ns	Effects on spouse's career
3.18	3.83	5.67	.019	Effects on spouse's education
4.19	4.51	4.22	.042	Loss of time with family
4 . 45	4.60	1.32	ns	Absence during important family events
3.74	4.41	12.75	.001	Disruption of the family
3.90	3.96	.11	ns	Seeing effects on friends who experience separation
3.31	3.73	2.96	ns	Expenses incurred for child care
3.46	3.89	2.79	ns	Low family separation allowance
3.42	3.77	1.72	ns	Problems with child care
3.26	3.69	3.77	. 054	Poor mail system

### Suggestions to Help Reduce Family Separation Problem: Marital Status Differences for Separating Enlisted Respondents

Single	Married	7	P	
4.25	4.18	.20	ns	Better communication with family
4.45	4.22	2.27	ns	Providing better pay
3.97	4.14	1.13	DS	Providing more personnel
4.01	3.82	1.25	D.S	Incouraging support groups
3.78	3.73	.09	ns	Providing more assistance for ombudsman purposes
4.07	4.01	.10	ns	Providing adequate family services to dependents
4.08	4.10	.01	ns	Educating dependents on available assistance
4.19	4.16	. 02	ns	Improving shore establishment response to dependents' needs
4.32	4.43	. 57	ns	Providing access to low cost flights to liberty ports for families
3.99	4.11	. 62	ns	Supporting co-location policy
4.15	4.47	4.19	.042	Shortening deployments
4.36	4.36	. 01	ns	Assuring personnel of shore rotation after one sea tour
3.87	3.85	.01	ns	Having fewer work-ups
4.18	4.23	3.24	ns	Developing a better management of time prior to cruises
3.90	4.14	1.58	ns	Expanding child care centers to include night care
4.10	3.86	1.35	ns	Putting more women in sea billets
4.30	4.29	.01	ns	Increasing separation allowance
4.18	4.24	. 12	ns	Adjusting shore working hours to provide more time for family

### Effects of Family Separation: Gender Differences for Separating Enlisted Respondents

Male	Female	t	P	
3.87	8.94	30	ns	Increased personal independence
3.54	2.96	1.99	.048	Prevented completion of education
3.98	3.63	1.18	ns	Affected children negatively
4.37	3.94	2.30	.023	Caused feelings of stress
3.51	2.68	2.60	.011	Prevented marriage
3.28	2.45	2.50	.014	Contributed to abuse of alcohol or drugs
3.38	3.44	25	ns	Made family more self-sufficient
4.05	3.55	2.35	.020	Induced feelings of depression
3.43	3.41	. 07	ns	<pre>Induced feelings of strength and   competence</pre>
4.21	3.35	2.85	. 005	Prevented seeing children grow up
4.29	3.54	3.87	.001	Increased loneliness
4.17	3.89	1.26	ns	Caused increased appreciation of time spent with family
3.03	2.43	2.12	.036	Induced psychological problems for me
2.70	2.50	. 63	ns	Reduced drug and alcohol abuse
3.86	3.14	2.76	.007	Resulted in better appreciation of children
3.80	3.58	.79	ns	Resulted in greater appreciation of spouse
2.47	2.61	59	ns	Increased job satisfaction
3.76	3.55	. 87	ns	Resulted in greater personal maturity
2.72	2.05	1.97	.051	Affected children positively
2.74	2.28	1.48	ns	Resulted in greater maturity in children
4.14	3.41	2.84	.005	Made family problems more difficult to solve
3.85	2.72	4.01	.001	Made it difficult for spouse to pursue career
3.72	2.83	3.03	.003	Made it difficult for spouse to pursue education
4.07	3.14	3.77	.001	Made spouse's job more difficult
3.43	3.09	1.20	ns	Made spouse more capable of dealing with problems
3.48	2.55	3.05	.003	Caused family to suffer financial difficulty

### Reasons for Decision to Separate: Gender Effects for Separating Enlisted Respondents

Male	Female	t	P	
4.21	3.90	1.13	ns	Long deployments
3.64	3.48	. 56	ns	Family reluctance to move
4.00	3.65	1.26	ns	Short notice of deployments
3.91	3.65	1.03	ns	Lack of stability in one geo-
				graphic area
4.26	4.06	.76	ns	Long hours prior to deployment
4.08	4.04	.18	ns	Being stationed away from family
3.83	3.72	. 44	ns	Inconvenience resulting from constant moving
3.79	3.53	. 95	ns	Time away from home during overhaul of ships
3.02	3.06	16	ns	Time away to attend Navy schools
4.31	4.08	1.11	ns	Absence from my family
3.31	2.87	1.45	ns	In-port duty
4.34	3.57	3.55	.001	Inability to help my family in crisis situation
3.81	3.39	1.77	ns	Long work weeks
3.93	3.52	1.76	ns	Lack of communication with family
3.69	3.80	36	ns	Single parenthood responsibilities
3.80	3.50	. 88	ns	Negative effect on my relationship with children
3.58	3.26	1.16	ns	Difficulty getting reassimilated into the family
4.09	3.61	2.36	.019	Personal loneliness
4.24	4.04	. 86	ns	Loneliness of spouse or children
4.27	3.81	1.90	ns	Being away from spouse
4.39	4.06	1.27	ns	Not being present as children are growing up
3.94	3.73	. 68	ns	Increased workload on my spouse
3.87	3.63	. 93	ns	Effects on spouse's career
3.70	3.27	1.43	ns	Effects on spouse's education
4.44	3.96	2.47	.014	Loss of time with family
4.51	4.27	1.33	ns	Absence during important family events
4.11	4.20	34	ns	Disruption of the family
3.93	3.77	. 69	ns	Seeing effects on friends who experience separation
3.58	3.79	81	ns	Expenses incurred for child care
3.82	3.60	. 79	ns	Low family separation allowance
3.59	3.89	-1.07	ns	Problems with child care
3.53	3.33	. 71	n.s	Poor mail system

### Suggestions to Help Reduce Family Separation Problems: Gender Effects for Separating Enlisted Respondents

Male	Female	t	P	
4.26	4.09	. 96	ns	Better communication with family
4.39	4.14	1.42	ns	Providing better pay
4.10	4.08	.09	ns	Providing more personnel
3.89	3.94	30	ns	Encouraging support groups
3.73	3.71	.07	ns	Providing more assistance for ombudsman purposes
4.03	3.97	. 30	ns	Providing adequate family services to dependents
4.10	4.00	. 56	ns	Educating dependents on available assistance
4.21	4.00	1.15	ns	<pre>Improving shore establishment   response to dependents' needs</pre>
4.34	4.48	82	ns	Providing access to low cost flights to liberty ports for families
4.01	4.24	-1.20	ns	Supporting co-location policy
4.38	4.24	.75	ns	Shortening deployments
4.39	4.20	1.04	ns	Assuring personnel of shore rotation after one sea tour
3.93	3.56	1.98	.049	Having fewer work-ups
4.38	4.16	1.35	ns	Developing a better management of time prior to cruises
3.98	4.28	-1.37	ns	Expanding child care centers to include night care
4.12	3.43	2.90	.004	Putting more women in sea billets
4.34	4.14	1.08	ns	Increasing separation allowance
4.24	4.08	.77	ns	Adjusting shore working hours to provide more time for family

### Ratings of Petty Regulations: Marital Status Differences for Separating Enlisted Respondents

Single	Married	F	P	
3.00	2.99	.01	ns	Grooming standards
3.52	3.29	1.55	ns	Inspections
3.09	3.04	. 05	ns	Uniform regulations
3.92	3.51	4.87	.029	Liberty regulations
3.35	3.31	.04	ns	Regulations imposed by base police
3.28	2.53	11.21	.001	Married people receiving higher pay than singles
3.72	3.75	.01	ns	Difficult parking regulations
3.14	2.97	. 68	ns	Weight standards
3.26	2.96	1.81	ns	Drug/urine testing
3.24	3.06	. 69	ns	Lateness regulations
3.51	3.26	1.72	ns	Duty regulations
3.38	3.21	. 68	ns	Requirement to repeatedly report to supervisor
3.63	3.41	1.41	ns	Authorization needed for activities
3.67	3.43	1.48	ns	Promotion regulations and practices
3.93	3.81	. 39	ns	Different commands have different regulations
4.06	3.86	1.14	ns	Minor infractions are punished too severely
3.03	3.09	.08	ns	Smoking regulations
3.35	3.07	2.40	ns	Eating regulations
4.02	3.80	1.52	ns	Excessive rules
3.85	3.59	1.63	ns	Barracks rules
4.10	3.82	2.25	ns	Differential enforcement of rules
4.24	3.90	3.19	ns	Rules for the sake of having rules

### Responsibility for Petty Regulations: Marital Status Differences for Separating Enlisted Respondents

Single	Married	•	P	
3.53	3.42	. 33	ns	CNO
3.51	3.38	. 46	ns	Admirals
3.45	3.31	. 50	DS	Secretary of Navy
3.89	4.00	. 36	ns	Officer in charge
3.80	3.69	. 37	ns	Officers in general
3,67	3.51	. 96	ns	Master Chief
3.71	3.65	.10	ns	Work center supervisor
3,19	3.28	.18	ns	Congress/government
3.44	3.42	. 02	ns	Chief of Boat
3.34	3.49	. 87	ns	NMPC
3.43	3.46	. 02	ns	OPNAV
4.22	4.29	. 19	ns	co/xo
3.99	3.81	1.15	ns	My superiors
3.79	3.68	. 41	ns	The Division
4.04	3.82	1.82	ns	The Department
4.03	4.05	. 03	ns	The Chain of Command
3.99	3.85	. 58	ns	Long standing Navy practice/custom

# Suggestions to Help Reduce Petty Regulations: Marital Status Differences for Separating Enlisted Respondents

Single	Married	r	P	
4.64	4.45	2.63	ns	Prioritize what is important
4.25	4.27	. 02	ns	Concentrate on job, not rules
4.15	4.21	. 17	ns	Examine the Navy structure
3.83	3.93	. 42	ns	Try ideas for longer periods
4.35	4.30	. 12	ns	Survey the fleet/get feedback
4.04	3.95	. 30	ns	Use a suggestion box
3.68	3.75	. 17	ns	Run commands more like a corporation
3.76	3.99	1.72	ns	Standard enforcement of guidelines by individual commands
4.52	4.61	. 42	ns	Treat sailors like adults
3.73	3.47	2.25	ns	Give more slack for minor offenses
4.72	4.68	.19	ns	Give credit for a job well-done
3.57	3.50	. 11	ns	Loosen rules at sea
4.44	4.37	. 33	ns	Better training of those in command
4.19	3.99	1.67	ns	No differential enforcement of rules
4.12	4.25	. 30	ns	Promote on merit
3.76	3.64	. 57	ns	Develop more liberal codes

### Ratings of Petty Regulations: Gender Effects for Separating Enristed Respondents

Male	Female	t	P	
3.19	2.13	4.36	.001	Grooming standards
3.55	2.79	3.39	.001	Inspections
3.20	2.50	2.99	.003	Uniform regulations
3.83	3.11	3.22	.001	Liberty regulations
3.44	2.97	2.00	.047	Regulations imposed by base police
2.92	2.49	1.61	ns	Married people receiving higher pay than singles
3.86	3.34	2.13	.034	Difficult parking regulations
3.12	2.73	1.58	ns	Weight standards
3.16	2.59	2.09	. 038	Drug/urine testing
3.18	2.81	1.48	ns	Lateness regulations
3.41	3.00	1.75	ns	Duty regulations
3.35	2.87	2.04	.043	Requirement to repeatedly report to supervisor
3.63	3.11	2.38	.018	Authorization needed for activities
3.58	3.47	. 46	ns	Promotion regulations and practices
3.92	3.69	1.08	ns	Different commands have different regulations
4.08	3.42	3.01	.003	Minor infractions are punished too severely
3.06	3.11	20	ns	Smoking regulations
3.19	3.06	. 63	ns	Eating regulations
4.06	3.26	3.84	.001	Excessive rules
3.82	3.29	2.16	. 032	Barracks rules
4.07	3.69	1.71	ns	Differential enforcement of rules
4.26	3.37	4.20	.001	Rules for the sake of having rules

## Responsibility for Petty Regulations: Gender Effects for Separating Enlisted Respondents

Male	Female	t	P	
3.48	3.38	. 43	ns	CNO
3.46	3.29	. 78	ns	Admirals
3.36	3.28	. 33	ns	Secretary of Navy
3.97	3.72	1.21	ns	Officer in charge
3.79	3.41	1.78	ns	Officers in general
3.68	3.21	1.84	ns	Master Chief
3.67	3.67	. 02	ns	Work center supervisor
3.21	3.14	. 32	ns	Congress/government
3.40	3.39	. 04	ns	Chief of Boat
3.37	3.49	60	ns	NMPC
3.43	3.34	. 43	ns	OPNAV
4.33	3.95	2.10	. 037	CO/XO
3.85	3.86	09	ns	My superiors
3.68	3.79	54	ns	The Division
3.90	3.95	25	ns	The Department
4.01	3.87	. 71	ns	The Chain of Command
3.87	3.92	24	ns	Long standing Navy practice/custom

## Suggestions to Help Reduce Petty Regulations: Gender Effects for Separating Enlisted Respondents

Male	Female	t	P	
4.54	4.57	22	ns	Prioritize what is important
4.30	4.17	.74	ns	Concentrate on job, not rules
4.19	4.12	. 42	ns	Examine the Navy structure
3.84	3.98	79	ns	Try ideas for longer periods
4.35	4.29	. 36	ns	Survey the fleet/get feedback
3.92	4.07	80	ns	Use a suggestion box
3.72	3.59	. 63	DS	Run commands more like a corporation
3.89	3.93	21	ns	Standard enforcement of guidelines
				by individual commands
4.60	4.48	. 8 6	ns	Treat sailors like adults
3.64	3.41	1.15	ns	Give more slack for minor offenses
4.65	4.81	-1.33	ns	Give credit for a job well-done
3.68	3.06	2.44	.016	Loosen rules at sea
4.34	4.45	75	ns	Better training of those in command
4.14	3.98	. 92	ns	No differential enforcement of rules
4.15	4.41	-1.48	ns	Promote on merit
3.69	3.66	. 19	ns	Develop more liberal codes

APPENDIX G

**TABLES** 

### Table 1

### **Reasons for Distortions in Separation Interviews**

- 1. Have No Incentive to Be Honest (Zarandona & Camuso, 1985)
- 2. Wish to Leave on Good Terms (Zarandona & Camuso, 1985)
- 3. Fear of Negative Comments to New Employer (Garretson & Teel, 1982; Zarandona & Camuso, 1985)
- 4. General Fear of Retribution (Jablonski, 1975; Zarandona & Camuso, 1985; Drost, O'Brien, & Marsh, 1987)
- 5. Feel That Superiors Really Do Not Care (Jablonski, 1975; Zarandona & Camuso, 1985)
- 6. Do Not Want to Burn Bridges (As You Were Saying, 1966; Zarandona & Camuso, 1985)
- 7. Do Not Want to Create Conflict (Drost, O'Brien, & Marsh, 1987)
- 8. The Truth May Be Personal (Drost, O'Brien, & Marsh, 1987)
- 9. May Not Wish to Provide Information Which Would Involve Fellow Workers (As You Were Saying, 1966)
- 10. Feel Uncomfortable With the Truth (As You Were Saying, 1966)

### Table 2

### Reasons for Providing Separate Voluntary and Involuntary Separation Questionnaires

- 1. The greatest discrepancy between initial reasons for leaving given in the separation interview and later follow-up is with those who have involuntarily separated.
- 2. Those who are involuntarily leaving have a different mindset than those who are voluntarily leaving, and are usually not likely to be helpful.
- 3. The goals that the Navy has for both groups are very different. The Navy should wish to want data on those who are voluntarily separating so as to learn where it can make changes to keep productive individuals. On the other hand, in many cases, the Navy would probably not be interested in keeping those who have been involuntarily separated.

### Table 3

### The Uses for Monitoring General Trends

- 1. Detecting Developing Problem Areas (e.g., comparisons over time)
- 2. Determining Problem Areas Within Particular Sub-Groups (e.g. gender, communities, etc.)
- 3. Policy Development (e.g., housing allowance)
- 4. Evaluation of Programs Designed to Solve Problem Areas (e.g., leadership training for petty officers)
- 5. Effects of major policy changes (e.g., sea-shore rotation)

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